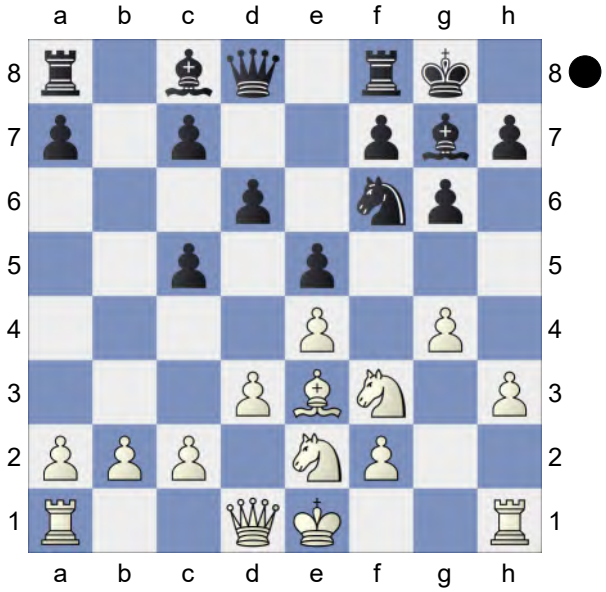
Ruy Lopez Berlin Defense
343 Reference Games

Chess Notes 2025

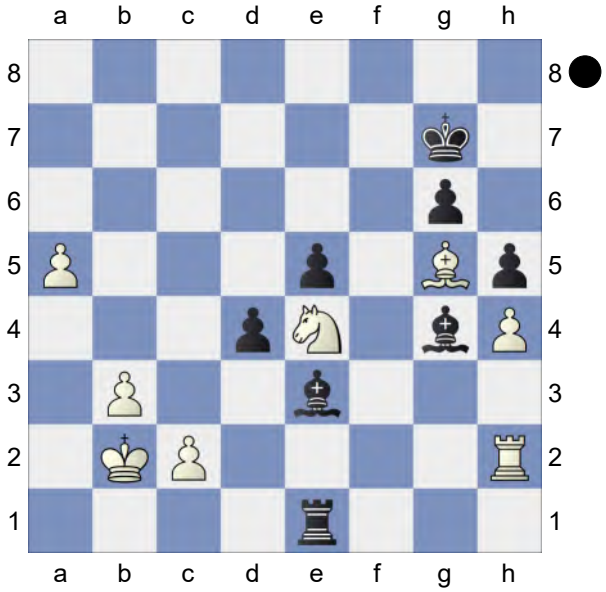
1 **C65**
□ **KomodoDragon3.3** **3620**
■ **Integral7.0.0-dev-0d55bc02** **3576**
TCEC 28 Premier 2025 (45.3) 23.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 "Played recently by correspondence between Glasgow and Birmingham St George clubs"; first to finish in a two-game match. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.Be3! c5 9.Ne2** -0.51/22
[9.Qd2= -0.08/19]
9...0-0∓
[9...Rb8 10.b3 Qe7 11.c4 Nh5 12.g4 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Rc1 g5 15.Nc3 c6 16.d4 f5 17.gxf5 Bxf5 18.Qe2 Bg6 19.dxc5 dxc5 20.Nd2 0-0 21.f3 Rbd8 22.Ndb1 Rd4 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Kf2 0-1 Birmingham-Glasgow,C Birmingham-Glasgow match 1889 (1)]
10.g4

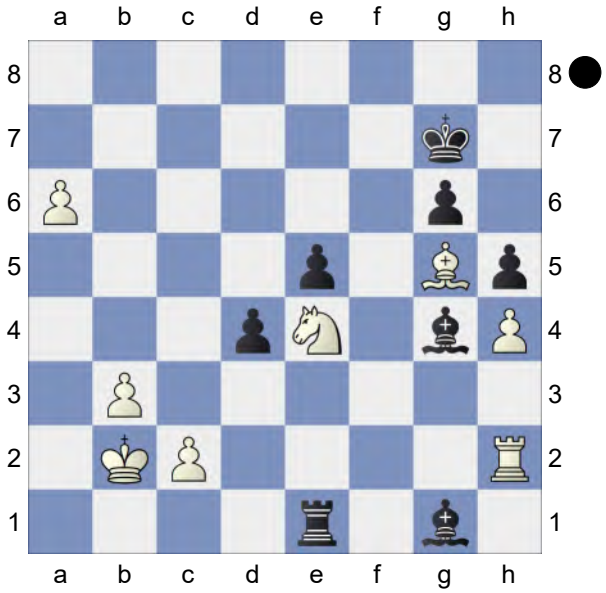


c4! 11.Nc3N
[11.Ng3 Rb8 *(11...cxd3 12.cxd3 c5 13.0-0 Qc7 14.Nd2 Be6 15.Nc4 Bxc4 16.dxc4 Qc6 17.Qd3 Rfd8 18.Bg5 Qb6 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Rfb1 Rab8 21.Ne2 a6 22.Nc3 Qc6 23.Nd5 Bg5 24.b4 Rdc8 25.b5 axb5 26.cxb5* 1-0 Anderssen,A (2600)-Kieseritzky,L Int. 1851 *c4 27.bxc6 cxd3 28.Rxb8 Rxb8 29.Rd1 d2 30.Kf1 Rb5 31.c7 Rc5 32.Ke2 Kf8 33.h4 Bf4 34.Nxf4 exf4 35.Rxd2 Ke7 36.Kf3 Rxc7 37.Kxf4 h6 38.Rb2* 1-0 2.c4 e5-Noteboom A Main Line Übersicht 4.h3 (2) *)*]
11...cxd3 12.Qxd3 a5 13.0-0-0 Ba6 14.Qd2 Bb7 15.Qd3 a4 16.Nh2 Ba6 17.Qd2 Bc4 18.g5 Nh5 19.Ng4 Qc8 20.Kb1 Qb7 21.Ka1 Be6 22.a3 Rab8 23.Rb1 Qa6 24.f3! f6 25.gxf6 Nxf6 26.Nxf6+ Rxf6
[26...Bxf6 27.h4=]
27.h4 h5 28.Rhg1 Kh7 Wards off Bh6
[28...Rxf3 29.Rxg6 Qc4 30.Nd5±]
29.Rg3 Qb7 30.Qd3 Bf7 31.Bg5! Re6 32.Rg2 -1.05/23
[32.Na2∓ -0.64/23 should be considered.]
32...Ree8 33.Rd2 Be6 -0.50/22
[33...Qc6!∓ -0.99/23]
34.Rg2 Bg8 35.Bd2 Bf7 36.Bg5 Rf8 37.Be3 Rg8 38.Rf2 Qc6! 39.Nd5 Rgf8 40.Bg5! Qd7 41.Nb4 -1.23/24
[⌓41.Nc3 -0.79/22]
41...Qb5 42.Qxb5 Rxb5 43.Rg1 Bc4! 44.Na2 Rf7 45.Nc3 Ra5 46.Kb1 Bf6 47.Rfg2 Ra8 48.Bc1 Rg8 -0.87/24
[48...Bxh4 49.Rxg6 Kh8 50.Rh1+-]
[⌓48...Rg7 -1.25/24 49.Rh2 Be6]
49.Rh2∓ Bd8 50.Nxa4 Rxf3 51.Nc3 Rgf8 52.a4 c6 Repels Nd5 **53.Rd1 Ba5!** This pair of bishops is nice. **54.Bd2** -1.38/21
[54.Rxd6 Bxc3 55.Rxc6 *(55.bxc3 Rb8+ 56.Ka1 Rf1 57.Rd7+ Kh8)* 55...Rf1 56.Rc7+ *(56.bxc3? Rb8+;*

56.Rxc4? Rxc1+ 57.Ka2 Bd4-+)
56...Kh8 57.Rxc4 Rxc1+ 58.Ka2 Bd4-+]
[Better is 54.Na2 -0.74/22]
54...Rf1 -0.76/23
[⌓54...Ra8 -1.38/21 55.Rg2 Bg8]
55.Kc1 Kg7 Black has more active pieces. **56.b3 Be6↑** Keeping White busy. **57.Rxf1 Rxf1+ 58.Kb2 Bb6 59.Ne2** -1.95/25
[59.Nb1∓ -1.05/22]
59...Bg4!-+ 60.Bg5 d5 61.exd5 -2.29/26
[61.b4∓ -1.13/26]
61...cxd5 62.Nc3 -2.25/22
[62.b4∓ -1.49/23]
62...Bg1! 63.Rd2 d4! 64.Ne4 Be3 -0.86/23
[64...Re1!-+ -2.04/24 and Black stays clearly on top. 65.Nf2 e4 66.Nxg4 hxg4]
65.Rh2∓ Re1 aiming for ...Bxg5. Loses the game. **66.a5?** -2.25/25
[66.Nf2!∓ -0.58/23]

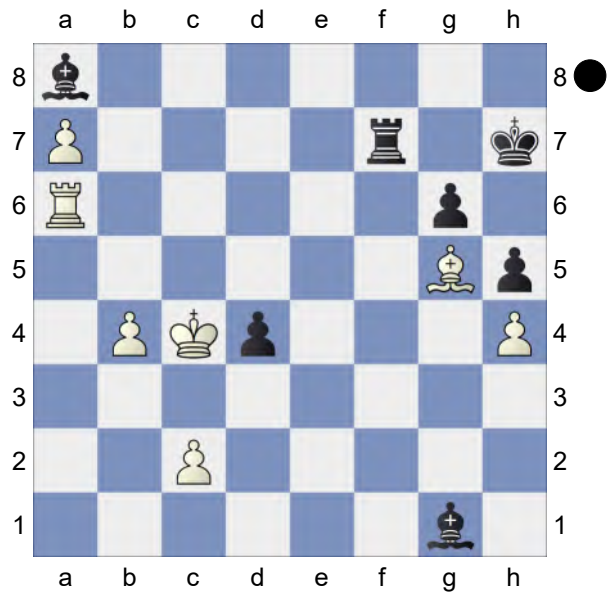


66...Bg1!-+ Discovered Attack **67.a6** -2.90/28
[⌓67.Rg2 -1.72/23 Bf3 Double Attack 68.Bf6+ Kh6 *(68...Kf8 69.Rxg1 Rxg1 70.Nc5∓)* 69.Rxg1 Rxg1 70.Nc5]



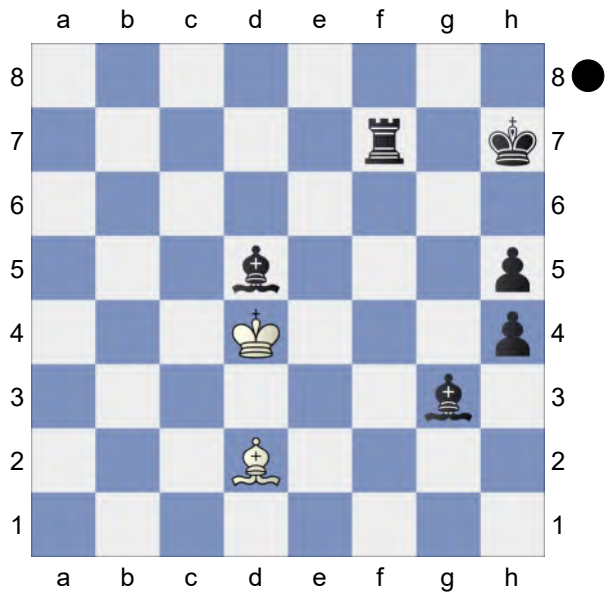
67...Bf3!
[67...Bxh2? 68.a7 Rxe4 69.a8Q+- *(69.a8B? Re2-+)*]
68.Bf6+ Kg8 69.Ng5 Ba8
[69...Bxh2? 70.Nxf3 e4 71.Nxh2+- *(71.Nxe1 Bb8+-)*]
70.Rd2 Be3 71.Rd3 e4 72.Nxe4
[72.Rxd4 Bxd4+ 73.Bxd4 e3∓]
72...Bxe4 73.a7 Kh7 74.b4 Rf1 75.Bg5 Bg1 76.Rg3 Bh2 77.Ra3 Ba8 78.Ra6 Rf7 79.Kb3 Bg1 80.Kc4

(Diagram)



d3! 81.Kxd3 Rxa7
[Less strong is 81...Bxa7 82.c4-+]
82.Rd6 Bg2 83.c3 Bh2 84.Rd8 Rf7 85.Ke3 Bf1 86.Rd2 Be5 87.Rc2 Bc4 88.Rd2 Be6
[88...Bxc3 89.Rc2=]
89.b5 Bxc3 90.Rd6 Bh3 91.b6 Bg2 92.Kd3 Be5 93.Re6 Bf4 94.Be7 Bd5 95.Re2 g5 96.Re1 -8.11/20
[⌓96.Bxg5 -4.57/22 Bxg5 97.Re5 Rf3+ *(97...Bxh4 98.Rxh5+ Kg6 99.Rxd5=)* 98.Ke2]
96...Bg3 97.b7 Bxb7
[Not 97...Bxe1 98.b8Q=]
98.Re6 Bd5 99.Rh6+ Kxh6 100.Bb4 gxh4 Black mates. **101.Bd2+ Kh7 102.Kd4**

(Diagram)



h3! 103.Kc5
[103.Kxd5 Rd7+]
103...h2 104.Kxd5 h1Q+ 105.Kd4 Rd7+ 106.Kc5 Rxd2 107.Kb4 Bd6+ 108.Kb3 Qd5+ 109.Kc3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.09 (flawless) **109...Qd3#**
0-1

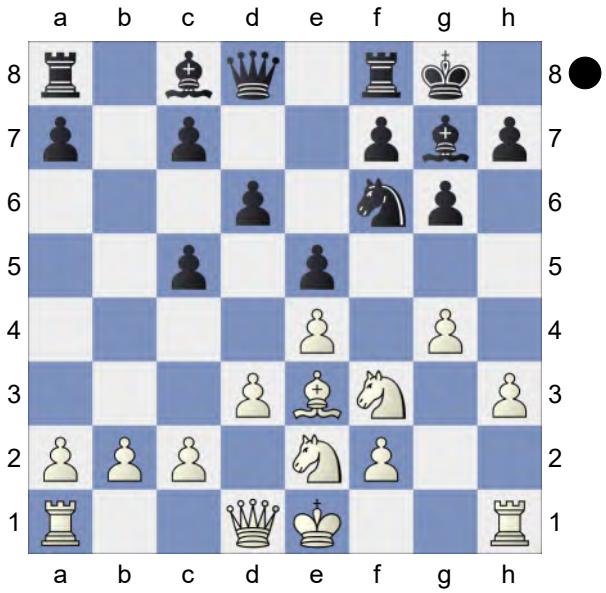
2 **C65**
□ **Ethereal14.40** **3618**
■ **Obsidiandev-16.14** **3645**
TCEC 28 Premier 2025 (52.4) 23.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 "Played recently by correspondence between Glasgow and Birmingham St George clubs"; first to finish in a two-game match. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.Be3 c5 9.Ne2** -0.42/20
[White should try 9.a3!= 0.16/21]
9...0-0∓
[9...Rb8 10.b3 Qe7 11.c4 Nh5 12.g4 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Rc1 g5

15.Nc3 c6 16.d4 f5 17.gxf5 Bxf5 18.Qe2 Bg6 19.dxc5 dxc5 20.Nd2 0-0 21.f3 Rbd8 22.Ndb1 Rd4 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Kf2 0-1 Birmingham-Glasgow,C Birmingham-Glasgow match 1889 (1)]

10.g4 -0.78/19

[10.Qd2∓ -0.42/19]



10...c4!∓ 11.Nc3N

[11.Ng3 cxd3 12.cxd3 c5 13.0-0 Qc7 14.Nd2 Be6 15.Nc4 Bxc4 16.dxc4 Qc6 17.Qd3 Rfd8 18.Bg5 Qb6 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Rfb1 Rab8 21.Ne2 a6 22.Nc3 Qc6 23.Nd5 Bg5 24.b4 Rdc8 25.b5 axb5 26.cxb5 c4 1-0 Anderssen,A (2600)-Kieseritzky,L Int. 1851 27.bxc6 cxd3 28.Rxb8 Rxb8 29.Rd1 d2 30.Kf1 Rb5 31.c7 Rc5 32.Ke2 Kf8 33.h4 Bf4 34.Nxf4 exf4 35.Rxd2 Ke7 36.Kf3 Rxc7 37.Kxf4 h6 38.Rb2 1-0 2.c4 e5-Noteboom A Main Line Übersicht 4.h3 (2)]

11...cxd3 12.Qxd3 a5 13.0-0-0 Ba6 14.Qd2 Bb7 15.Qd3 a4 16.Nh2 Ba6↑ White is under strong pressure. **17.Qd2 Bc4 18.g5 Nh5 19.Ng4 Qc8 20.Kb1! Qb7 21.Ka1 Rfd8 22.a3 c6! 23.f4**

[23.Nh6+? Bxh6 24.gxh6 d5-+]

23...Rab8! 24.Rb1 d5!

[24...exf4?! 25.Bxf4 Nxf4 26.Qxf4=]

25.exd5 Bxd5

[25...exf4?! 26.Bxf4 Nxf4 27.Qxf4 cxd5 *(27...Bxd5 28.Nf6+ Kh8 29.Rhe1±)* 28.Rhd1=]

26.Rhd1 Qe7

[26...exf4 27.Bxf4 Ra8 *(27...Nxf4 28.Qxf4 Be6 29.Rxd8+ Rxd8 30.Nf6+ Kh8 31.Nce4=)* 28.Nh6+ Kh8 29.Be3±]

27.f5 Bf3! 28.f6 Rxd2 29.fxe7 Rxd1 30.Nxd1 A dynamic duo of knights.

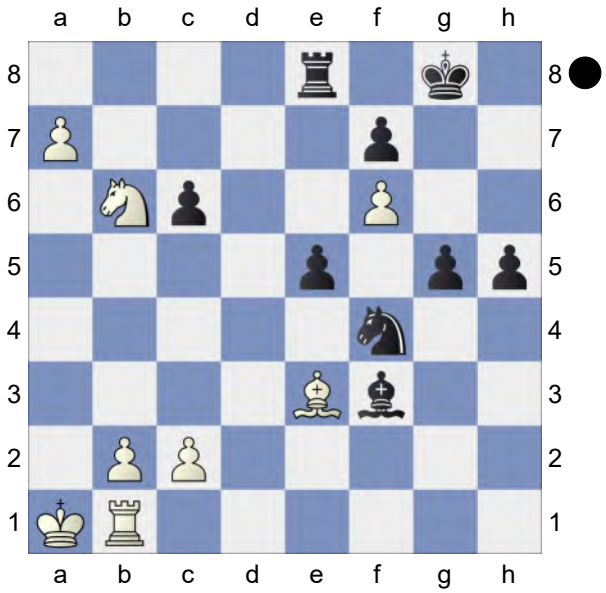
30...Re8 31.Nc3 Rxe7 32.Nxa4 Nf4! 33.Nb6 -1.39/23

[⌓33.Rg1 -0.91/23]

33...Nxh3 34.Nf6+ Bxf6 35.gxf6 Re8 36.a4 h5 37.a5 Nf4 38.a6 g5 -0.92/22

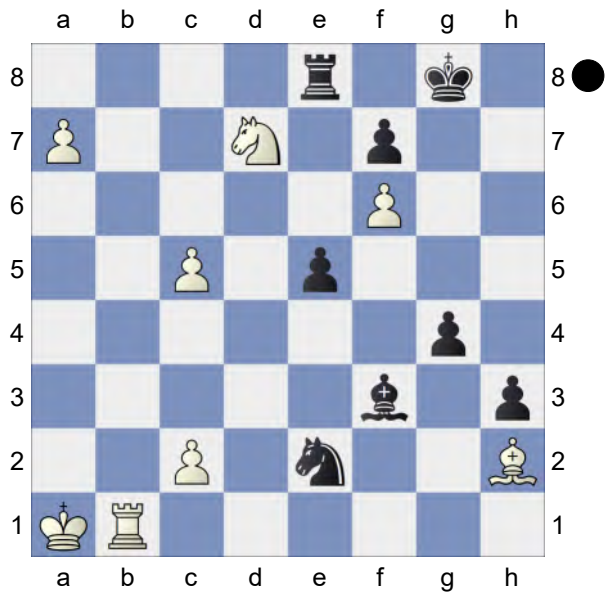
[⌓38...h4! -1.39/23 39.Bxf4 *(39.a7 Nd5∓)* 39...exf4]

39.a7



c5! -0.12/23 **40.b4= h4 41.bxc5 h3 42.Bg1 g4 43.Bh2 Ne2 44.Nd7!**

(Diagram)



Rb8! is the strong threat. **44...Ra8** -0.19/25
[44...g3!∓ -1.32/25 45.Bxg3 *(45.Rb8? gxh2 46.Rxe8+ Kh7-+)* 45...Nxg3]
45.Rb8+
[45.Nxe5 Rxa7+ 46.Kb2 Bd5-+]
45...Kh7 46.Nxe5
[46.Bxe5? is the wrong capture. Rxa7+ 47.Kb2 Rxd7-+]
[But not 46.Nf8+? Kh6 47.Rxa8 Bxa8-+]
46...Rxa7+ 47.Kb2 g3 The position is equal. **48.Nxf3 gxh2 49.Nxh2 Kg6 50.Rh8 Nf4 51.c6 Kxf6** And White is the lucky defender. Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.10 (very precise) **52.Nf3**
½-½

3 **C65**
□ **PlentyChess6.0.14** **3588**
■ **Berserk20250622** **3650**
TCEC 28 Premier 2025 (45.1) 23.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

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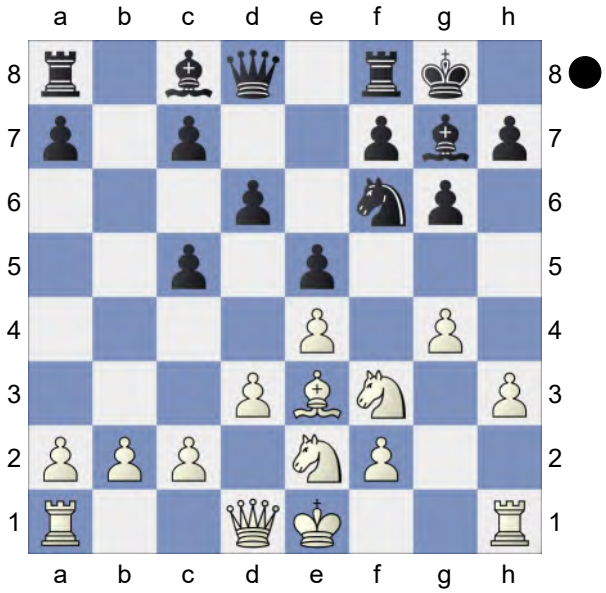
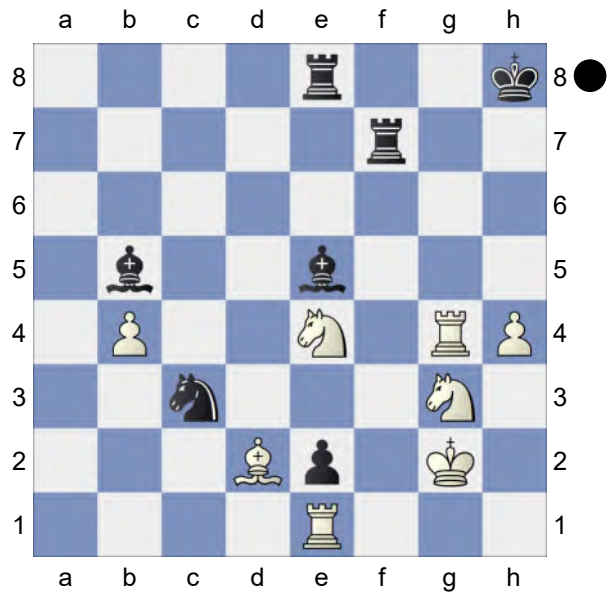
[9.a3= 0.02/20]
9...0-0
[9...Rb8 10.b3 Qe7 11.c4 Nh5 12.g4 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Rc1 g5 15.Nc3 c6 16.d4 f5 17.gxf5 Bxf5 18.Qe2 Bg6 19.dxc5 dxc5 20.Nd2 0-0 21.f3 Rbd8 22.Ndb1 Rd4 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Kf2 0-1 Birmingham-Glasgow,C Birmingham-Glasgow match 1889 (1)]
10.g4 -0.80/19
[10.Qd2∓ -0.42/20 should be considered.]

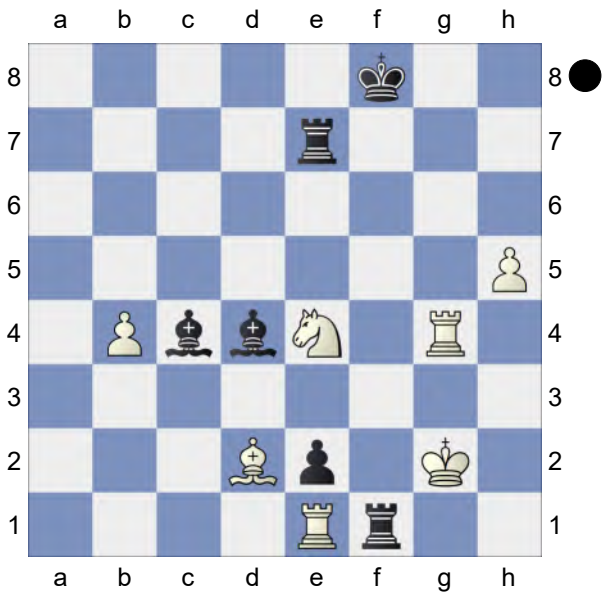


10...c4!∓ 11.Ng3
[11.Nc3 cxd3]
11...cxd3 12.Qxd3N
[12.cxd3 c5 13.0-0 Qc7 14.Nd2 Be6 15.Nc4 Bxc4 16.dxc4 Qc6 17.Qd3 Rfd8 18.Bg5 Qb6 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Rfb1 Rab8 21.Ne2 a6 22.Nc3 Qc6 23.Nd5 Bg5 24.b4 Rdc8 25.b5 axb5 26.cxb5 c4 1-0 Anderssen,A (2600)-Kieseritzky,L Int. 1851 27.bxc6 cxd3 28.Rxb8 Rxb8 29.Rd1 d2 30.Kf1 Rb5 31.c7 Rc5 32.Ke2 Kf8 33.h4 Bf4 34.Nxf4 exf4 35.Rxd2 Ke7 36.Kf3 Rxc7 37.Kxf4 h6 38.Rb2 1-0 2.c4 e5-Noteboom A Main Line Übersicht 4.h3 (2)]
12...Qe7 13.c4 a5 14.Rd1 a4 15.b4 axb3 16.axb3 h6 17.Nd2 c6 18.b4 Qe6 19.0-0 h5 20.f3 d5 21.exd5 cxd5 22.cxd5 Nxd5 23.Rf2 f5 Wards off Nde4 **24.gxf5 gxf5 25.Bg5 Bb7**
[25...Nxb4?! 26.Qc4 Qxc4 27.Nxc4=]
26.Rg2 Qg6
[26...Nxb4 27.Qb1 *(27.Qb5 Rfb8=)* 27...Nc6 28.Nxh5+- *(28.Qxb7 Rfb8=)*]
27.h4 Kh8
[27...Nxb4? 28.Qb3+ Kh7 29.Qxb4+-]
28.Kh2 Qf7
[28...Nxb4 29.Qb1± *(29.Qb5 Rab8∓)*]
29.Rc1 -1.72/21
[29.Qb3∓ -1.29/21]
29...e4!-+
[29...Nxb4 30.Qb1 f4 31.Qxb4=]
30.fxe4 fxe4 31.Qe2 -1.75/23
[31.Ndxe4? Nf4 *(31...Nxb4 32.Qe2=)* 32.Qd6 Bxe4 *(32...Nxg2? 33.Rc7-+)*]
[31.Ngxe4∓ -1.33/23 Be5+ *(31...Nxb4 32.Qd6=)* 32.Kg1]
31...e3!
[31...Nxb4 32.Rf1 Qg6 33.Qb5=]
32.Nde4 Qg6 Dodges Nd6
[32...Nxb4 33.Nd6 *(33.Qxe3 Nd5=)* 33...Qf3 34.Nxb7±]
33.Nc5 -2.04/21
[⌓33.Qxh5+ -1.64/23 Qxh5 34.Nxh5 Be5+ *(34...Nxb4 35.Nxg7 Bxe4 36.Ne6∓)* 35.Neg3]
33...Rac8!
[33...Nc3 34.Rxc3 Bxg2 *(34...Bxc3 35.Nxb7 Rf2 36.Rxf2±)* 35.Rxe3]
34.Qxh5+ Qxh5 35.Nxh5 Be5+
[35...Nxb4 36.Nxg7 Bxg2 37.Nge6]
36.Kg1 Rf3 Black has strong compensation.
[36...Nxb4 37.Bxe3 Bxg2 38.Kxg2∓]
37.Re1 Bc6 38.Ne4 Bb5 A strong pair of Bishops. White is weak on the light squares
[38...Nxb4 39.Nef6∓ *(39.Bf6+ Bxf6 40.Nexf6 Nd3∓)*]
39.Bh6 Re8
[39...Nxb4 40.Nef6 *(40.Bg7+ Bxg7 41.Rxg7 Nc2∓)* 40...Bxf6 41.Nxf6 *(41.Bxe3? Rxe3 42.Rxe3 Bd4-+* Pin *)* 41...Rxf6 42.Bg7+ *(42.Bxe3 Re8∓)* 42...Kh7 43.Bxf6±]
40.Rg4 e2!
[40...Nxb4 41.Nhf6 *(41.Rxe3 Rf1+ 42.Kg2 Nc2∓; 41.Ng5 Rf5=)* 41...Bxf6 42.Nxf6 *(42.Rxe3 Rxe3 43.Bxe3 Ba1∓)* 42...Rxf6 43.Rxb4= *(43.Bg7+ Kh7=)*]
41.Nhg3 Wards off Rf1+ **41...Nc3** Black is much more active.
[41...Nxb4 42.Nxe2 Nc2 43.Rc1 Bxe2 *(43...Ne3 44.Bxe3 Bxe2 45.Bf2∓)* 44.Rxc2 Rf1+ 45.Kg2∓]
42.Kg2 Rf7 The board is on fire. **43.Bd2**
(Diagram)



Nxe4 44.Nxe4 Rf1↑ Black is really pushing. **45.Rg5 Re7 46.Kh3** -2.20/22
[46.Rh5+∓ -0.85/21 Kg8 47.Rg5+ Rg7 48.Rxg7+ Kxg7 49.h5]
46...Kh7 -0.86/25
[46...Bd3-+ -2.20/22 is more deadly. 47.Nc5 Bf5+ 48.Rxf5 Rxf5 49.Rxe2 Bf6]
47.Rh5+∓ Kg8 48.Rg5+ Kf8 49.h5? -3.32/19
[49.Kg2∓ -0.79/23]
49...Bc4-+ 50.Kg2 Bd4
[50...Bf4 51.Rf5+ Rf7 52.Rxf7+ Kxf7 53.Bxf4 Rxe1 *(53...Rxf4 54.Nd2=)* 54.Bd2-+ *(54.Nd6+? Ke6-+)*]
51.Rg4

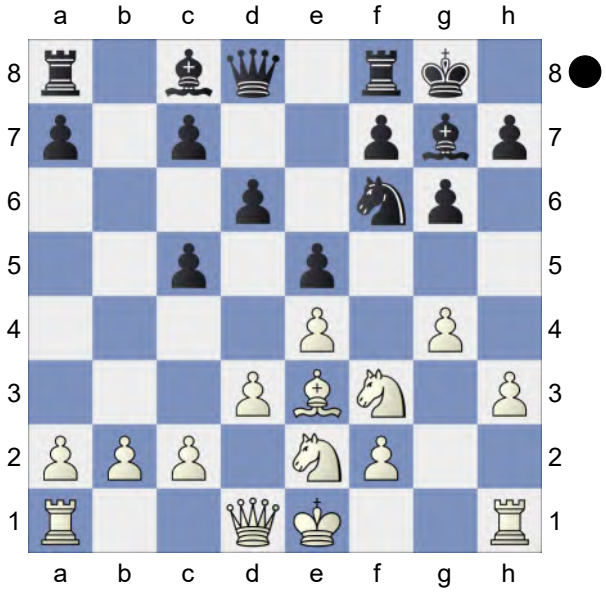
(Diagram)



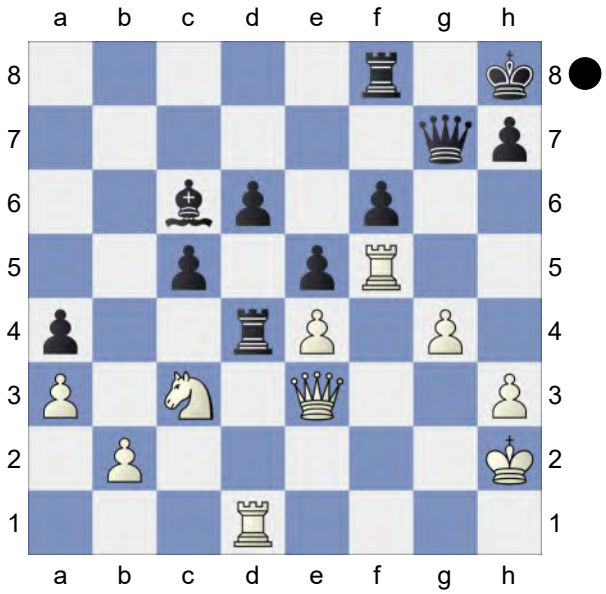
Be3 Deflection **52.Bc3 Bd3**
[Not 52...Bd5 53.Rxe2 Rg1+ *(53...Bxe4+ 54.Kxf1 Bd3* Pin *55.Ke1+-)* 54.Kh3 Rxg4 *(54...Rxe4 55.Rxe4* Remove Defender *Bxe4 56.Rxe3=)* 55.Kxg4 Rxe4+ 56.Kf5∓]
53.Ng3 Rf2+ 54.Kh3 Bb5 Hoping for ... Bd7. **55.Ne4 Rf1 56.Kg2 Rc7 57.h6 Bxh6 58.Nc5?** -5.09/27
[58.Rg6 -2.97/22 was worth a try. Rxc3 59.Rxe2]
58...Rc6 59.Kh3 Kf7 60.Kh4 Rg6 61.Kh5 Rxg4 62.Kxg4 Kg6 63.Ne6 Be3 64.Nd8 Bd7+ 65.Kg3 Bf2+ 66.Kg2 Bxe1 67.Bxe1 KRB-KBN **67...Bh3+ 68.Kg3 Rxe1 69.Kf2 Rd1 70.Kxe2 Rxd8** Black mates. **71.Ke3 Kf5 72.b5 Bf1 73.b6 Bg2 74.Kf2 Bb7 75.Ke3 Kg5 76.Kf2 Kf4 77.Ke2 Bf3+ 78.Kf2 Rd2+ 79.Ke1 Ke3 80.b7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/ Black=0.12 (very precise) **80...Rd1#**
0-1

4 **C65**
□ **Obsidiandev-16.14** **3645**
■ **Ethereal14.40** **3618**
TCEC 28 Premier 2025 (45.4) 23.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 "Played recently by correspondence between Glasgow and Birmingham St George clubs"; first to finish in a two-game match. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.Be3 c5 9.Ne2** -0.46/22
[9.a3= 0.09/21]
9...0-0∓
[9...Rb8 10.b3 Qe7 11.c4 Nh5 12.g4 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Rc1 g5 15.Nc3 c6 16.d4 f5 17.gxf5 Bxf5 18.Qe2 Bg6 19.dxc5 dxc5 20.Nd2 0-0 21.f3 Rbd8 22.Ndb1 Rd4 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Kf2 0-1 Birmingham-Glasgow,C Birmingham-Glasgow match 1889 (1)]
10.g4

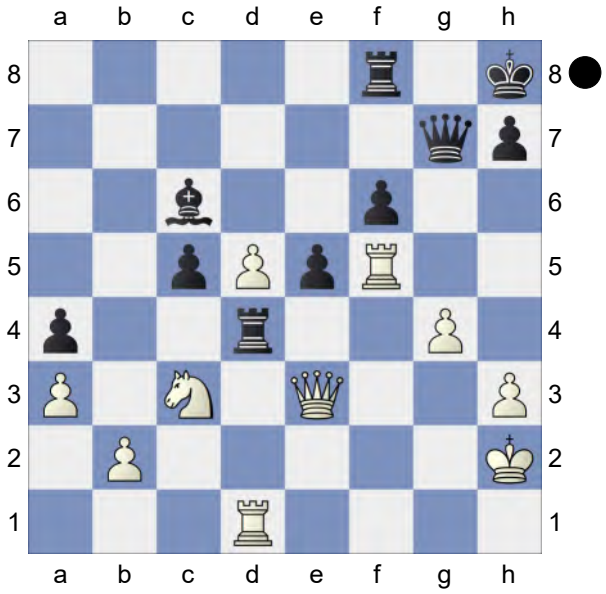


c4! 11.Ng3 cxd3 12.Qxd3N
[12.cxd3 c5 13.0-0 Qc7 14.Nd2 Be6 15.Nc4 Bxc4 16.dxc4 Qc6 17.Qd3 Rfd8 18.Bg5 Qb6 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Rfb1 Rab8 21.Ne2 a6 22.Nc3 Qc6 23.Nd5 Bg5 24.b4 Rdc8 25.b5 axb5 26.cxb5 c4 1-0 Anderssen,A (2600)-Kieseritzky,L Int. 1851 27.bxc6 cxd3 28.Rxb8 Rxb8 29.Rd1 d2 30.Kf1 Rb5 31.c7 Rc5 32.Ke2 Kf8 33.h4 Bf4 34.Nxf4 exf4 35.Rxd2 Ke7 36.Kf3 Rxc7 37.Kxf4 h6 38.Rb2 1-0 2.c4 e5-Noteboom A Main Line Übersicht 4.h3 (2)]
12...Qe7 13.c4 c6 14.Qa3 Ne8 15.Rd1 a5 16.0-0 c5 17.Bg5 Qd7 18.Qe3 f6 19.Bh6 Bxh6 20.Qxh6 Nc7 21.Qd2 -0.88/22
[21.Kh2!∓ -0.46/24 was preferable.]
21...Ra6!∓ 22.Ne1 Ne6 23.Nd3 a4 24.f4 Rb6 25.Kh2 Ba6 26.f5 Nd4 27.Rc1 Rbb8 28.Rc3 Bb7 29.Nf2 Bc6 30.Nd1 Qb7 31.Qe3 Qg7 32.Rf2 Kh8 33.Rd3 Rb4
[33...h5 34.fxg6 hxg4 35.Nf5 Qxg6 36.hxg4 Qh7+]
34.Nc3 Rxc4 35.a3 Prevents Rb4.
35...gxf5! 36.Nxf5 Nxf5 37.Rxf5 Rd4 38.Rd1

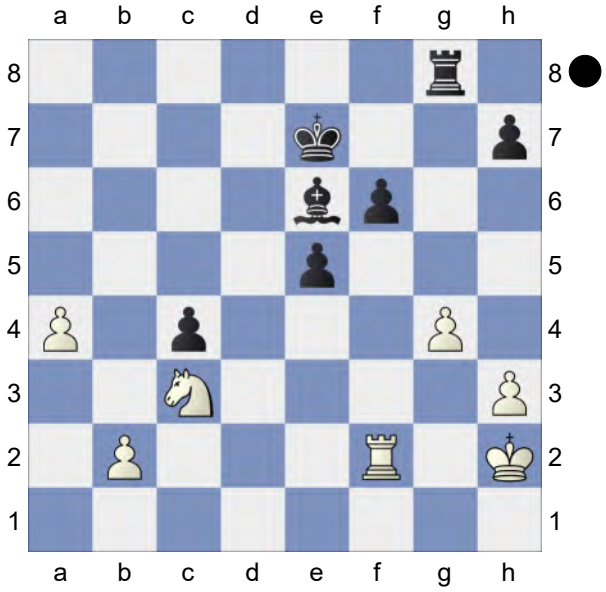


Bb5 -0.43/26 **39.Rf3∓ Rb8 40.Qf2 Bc6**

[40...Rxd1 41.Nxd1 Rf8 42.Ne3=]
41.Rf5
[41.Rxf6 Rxb2 *(41...Bxe4? 42.Rxd4* Remove Defender *exd4 43.Nxe4+-)* 42.Qxb2 Qxf6 43.Qb8+ Kg7 44.Qc7+ Kg6 45.Qxc6 Qf2+ 46.Kh1 Rxd1+ 47.Nxd1 Qf3+ 48.Kh2 Qxd1∓]
41...Rf8 0.01/23
[41...Bxe4?! 42.Rxd4 Bxf5 43.Rxd6=]
[Black should try 41...Rxd1∓ -0.56/26 42.Nxd1 Qe7 *(42...Bxe4 43.Rxf6 Qe7 44.Rf7∓)*]
42.Qe3!= d5 43.exd5



Bxd5 44.Rdf1! Be6 45.R5f2 c4 46.Rd1 Prevents Rd3. **46...Rxd1 47.Nxd1 Rd8 48.Qb6! Qd7 49.Nc3**
[49.Rxf6? is the wrong capture. Qxd1 50.Qe3 Qd2+ 51.Qxd2 Rxd2+-+]
49...Qd4 Against Ne4 **50.Nxa4 Kg7 51.Qb7+! Kh8** -0.01/26
[51...Bd7∓ -0.53/28 52.Rg2 Kh8 *(52...Qf4+ 53.Kh1=)*]
52.Qb6! Kg7 0.01/23
[52...Qxb6∓ -0.35/26 53.Nxb6 Kg7]
53.Qb7+! Bd7! 54.Rg2 Qf4+ 55.Kg1 Kf8 56.Nc3 Be6 Dodges Nd5 **57.Rf2 Qg3+ 58.Qg2** Chess con chili.
[58.Rg2 looks sharper. Qe3+ 59.Rf2 Rd2 60.Qf3]
58...Qe3 White must now prevent ...Rd3.
59.Qf3 Qxf3 60.Rxf3 Ke7 61.a4 Rb8 62.Rf2 Rg8 63.Kh2



Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
63...h5!
½-½

5 **C65**
□ **Keymer,Vincent** **2730**
■ **Vidit,S.** **2720**
FIDE Grand Swiss 2025 (8.5) 12.09.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.Nbd2 a5
[7...0-0 8.Nc4 Re8 *(8...f6 9.Qe1 Re8 10.Qc3 Bd6 11.Be3 Nf8 12.b4 Qe7 13.Rab1 Ne6 14.Na5 Nd8 15.Nd2 Bd7 16.f4 exf4 17.Bxf4 b6*

18.Bxd6 cxd6 19.Nac4 d5 20.Ne3 Qd6 21.Rbe1 d4 22.Qb3+ Be6 23.Nf5 ½-½ Wachs (2471)-Van Beers, E (2436) (Game 11) Pune 2004 (8.2)*)* 9.a4 b6 10.Kh1 a5 11.Be3 Bd6 12.Ng1 Nf8 13.Ne2 Ng6 14.f4 exf4 15.Nxd6 cxd6 16.Nxf4 d5 17.Nxg6 hxg6 18.Qf3 Be6 19.e5 d4 20.Bf4 g5 21.Bd2 g4 22.Qg3 1-0 Nepomniachtchi,I (2766)-Tomashevsky,E (2628) Wch Rapid Almaty 2022 (10)]

8.Nc4 The position is equal. **8...Qe7 9.Re1N** 0.01/22

[9.c3± 0.39/23 deserves consideration. 0-0 10.d4 exd4 11.cxd4 b5 12.Nxa5 Rxa5 13.dxc5 Ra4 Alieksieienko,M-Solution URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]

[9.Ne3 Bxe3 10.Bxe3 Nf8 11.d4 exd4 12.Qxd4 Ne6 13.Qc3 c5 14.Ne5 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6...]

9...0-0= 10.a4 b6 11.Ne3 Bxe3 12.Bxe3 c5 13.Nd2 Bb7 14.b3 Qe6 15.Nf1 Qg6 16.Ng3 f5 17.exf5 Rxf5 18.h3 Qc6 19.f3 Rf6 20.Bd2 0.19/25

[20.Bf2± 0.57/23]

20...Rg6! 21.Kh2 Qd6 22.Re3 h5 23.Ne4

[23.Nxh5 e4+ 24.f4 exd3=]

23...Bxe4 1.36/26

[⌓23...Qe7 0.73/25]

24.fxe4± Rf8 25.Rf3!

[25.Qxh5? Rf2 26.Rg1 Rxd2-+]

25...h4 26.Qe2 0.97/25

[⌓26.Qf1 1.43/27]

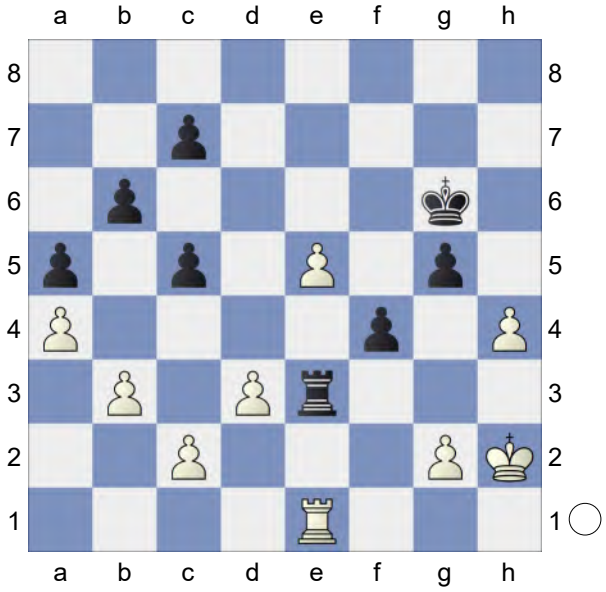
26...Rxf3 27.Qxf3 Nf8 28.Rc1 0.01/23

[Better is 28.Rf1± 1.39/26 and Qf7+ would now be decisive Rf6 29.Qd1]

28...Ne6!= 29.Qh5 Nf4 30.Bxf4

[30.Qxh4? Rxg2+ *(30...Nxg2 31.Qf2=)* 31.Kh1 Rxd2-+]

30...exf4 Endgame KQR-KQR **31.e5 Qc6 32.Rg1 Rg3! 33.Qxh4 g5 34.Qh5 Kg7 35.h4 Qg6⇄** Black puts up resistance **36.Qxg6+ Kxg6** KR-KR. White is a pawn up. **37.Re1 Re3**



38.h5+! Kxh5 39.Rxe3 fxe3 KP-KP **40.Kg1!**

[40.Kg3? g4 41.c3 Kg5-+]

40...Kg6! Hoping for ...Kf5. **41.Kf1 Kf5 42.Ke2 Kxe5 43.Kxe3** Black cannot hold the game after this. **43...c6?** 5.30/32

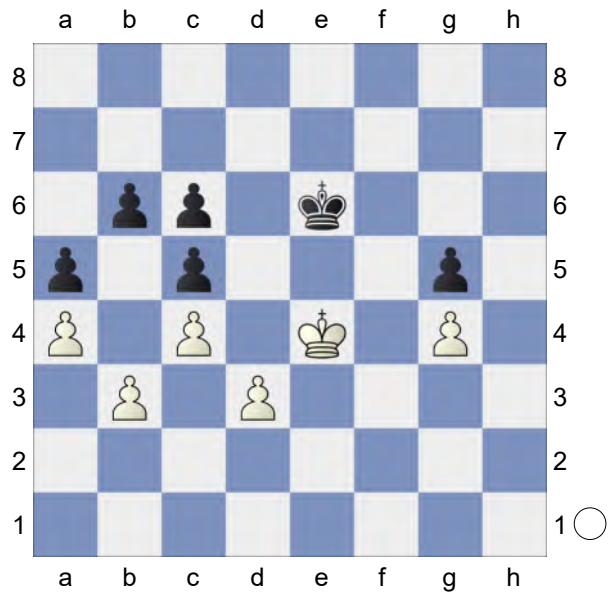
[43...Kd5!= 0.01/24]

44.c4!+- Kf5 45.Kf3 Kf6 13.88/32

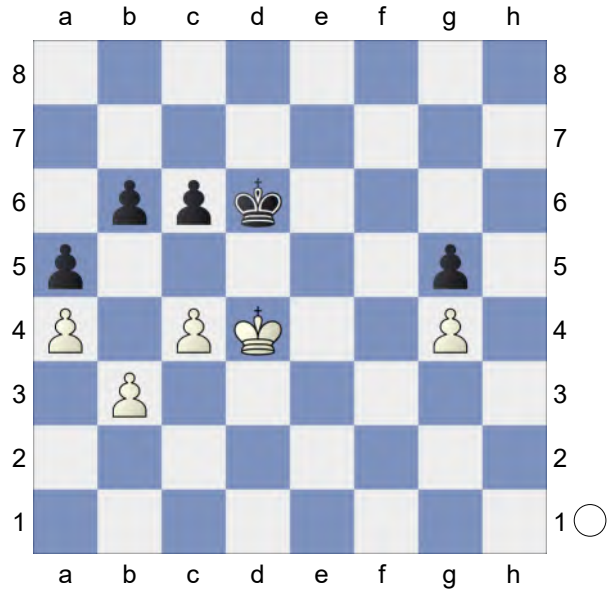
[⌓45...Ke5 4.71/28 46.Kg4 Kf6]

46.Ke4 Ke6 47.g3 Kf6 48.g4 Ke6

(Diagram)



49.d4! cxd4 50.Kxd4 Kd6



51.c5+! bxc5+ 52.Kc4 Ke5 53.Kxc5 K3P-K3P **53...Kf4 54.b4 axb4 55.Kxb4 Kxg4** KPP-KP. Black is a pawn up. **56.a5 Kh3 57.a6 g4 58.a7 g3 59.a8Q**

[59.a8B? perishes. g2 60.Bxc6 g1Q-+ *(60...g1B 61.Bh1=)*]

59...g2 60.Qa7

[Weaker is 60.Qxc6 g1Q=]

60...Kh2 61.Qf2 Kh1 62.Qh4+ Kg1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.37 **63.Kc3 1-0**

6 **C67**

□ **So,W.** **2745**

■ **Gukesh,D.** **2776**

12th Sinquefield Cup (7.3) 25.08.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Bf6 10.Re1 Nf5**

[10...Re8 11.Nd5 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 b6 13.Nxf6+ *(13.d3 Bb7 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Qb4 c5 16.Qf4 Qxf4 17.Bxf4 Nf5 18.Re1 f6 19.c3 Kf7 20.f3 g5 21.Bd2 h5 22.Kf2 h4 23.Be2 Bd5 24.a3 Rg8 25.Bd1 Be6 26.Bc2 Ne7 27.b4 Rc8* 0-1 Paravyan,D (2586)-Lazavik,D (2541) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (7)) 13...Qxf6 14.f3 Bb7 15.Qf2 Re8 16.d4 h6 17.Bd2 Nf5 18.c3 Nh4 19.Bd3 Ng6 20.Re1 Rxe1+ 21.Qxe1 Qe6 22.Qxe6 dxe6 23.c4 Kf8 24.Kf2 Ke8 25.Bc2 ½-½ Aronian,L (2767)-Carlsen,M (2842) 6th Sinquefield Cup 2018 (3.1)]

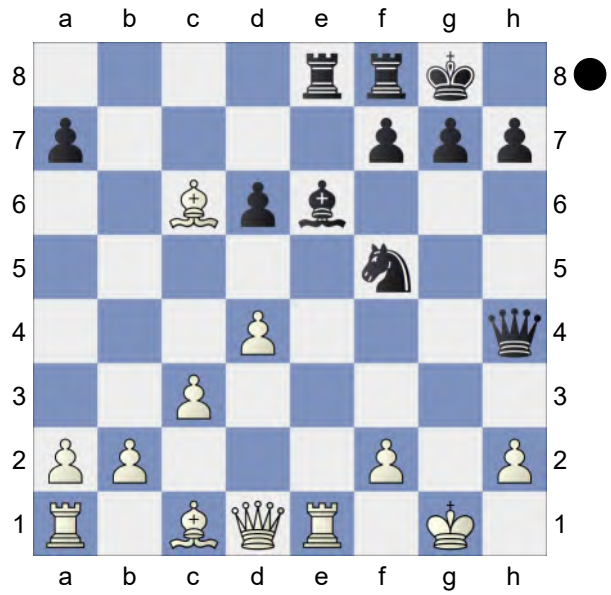
11.Nd5 White is slightly better.

11...Bh4N

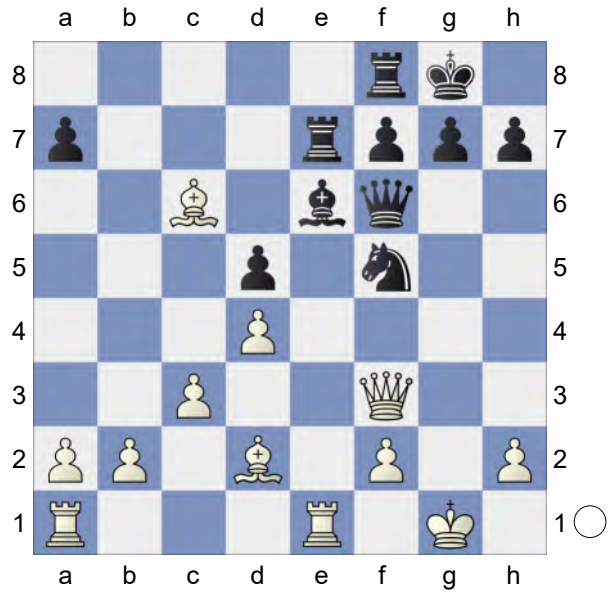
[11...c6 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.c3 d5 14.Qf3 Qg6 15.d4 Nd6 16.Qg3 Qxg3 17.hxg3 Be6 18.f3 Rfe8 19.g4 Bd7 20.Bf4 Rxe1 21.Rxe1 Re8 22.Ra1 Nc8 23.a4 f6 24.Kf2 Be6 25.g5 fxg5 26.Bxg5 1-0 Van Delft,M (2390)-Van Beek,A (2339) Meesterklasse 2013 (8)]

12.g3 c6! 13.Bh3 Nd4 14.gxh4 -0.27/26

[14.Ne3± 0.38/24 Be7 15.c3]
14...cxd5= 15.c3 Qxh4 16.Bg2 Nf5 17.d4! d6 18.Bxd5 Be6 19.Bxb7 This pair of bishops is nice. **19...Rae8 20.Bc6↑**



White is pushing. **20...Re7** 0.49/25
[20...d5= -0.01/24]
21.Bd2± d5 1.38/26
[21...Bc8!± 0.40/25]
22.Qf3± Qf6



23.Kh1!
[23.Bxd5 Qg6+ 24.Kh1 Nh4∓]
23...Qg6 1.71/22
[23...Rc7± 1.34/21 24.Ba4 *(24.Bxd5 Nh4∓)* 24...Rb7]
24.Re5 0.48/28
[Stronger than 24.Bxd5 Nh4 25.Qe4 Qh5=]
[24.Bf4+- 1.71/22]
24...Bc8 1.08/28
[24...Nh4± 0.48/28 25.Qg3 Qxg3 26.hxg3 Nf3]
25.Bxd5 Rxe5 26.dxe5 c4 is the strong threat. This costs Black the game.
26...Rd8? 2.84/26
[26...Nh4± 0.80/25 27.Qe4 Rd8 *(27...Be6 28.Bb7±)*]
27.Rg1+- Nh4 28.Qf4 Rxd5 29.Rxg6
[29.Qxh4? perishes. Qc6 30.f3 *(30.Qe4? Bb7-+)* 30...Rxd2-+]
29...Nxg6 30.Qe3 h5 31.c4 White is clearly winning. **31...Rd8 32.f3 h4 33.Kg1 Be6 34.b3 h3 35.Kf2 a6 36.Ke2 Bc8 37.Bb4 f6 38.exf6 gxf6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.45 **39.Ba5**
1-0

7 **C65**
□ **Caruana,F.** **2784**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2771**
Saint Louis Blitz 2025 (8.3) 14.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...b6N
[6...Be6 7.0-0
A) 7...Bd6 8.b3 *(8.Nb3 a5 9.Qe1 a4 10.Na5 Qb8 11.b4 0-0 12.Ng5 Re8 13.Nxe6 Rxe6 14.Rb1 Bf8 15.Bd2 b6 16.Nc4 Qe8 17.Ne3*

b5 18.f4 exf4 19.Rxf4 c5 20.bxc5 Bxc5 21.Kh1 Bxe3 22.Bxe3 Nd5 ½-½ Novy,M (2655)-Mohandesi,S (2631) USA-ch GpB San Diego 2006 (4.1)*)* 8...Nd7 9.Nc4 Qe7 10.Ng5 Bxc4 11.bxc4 0-0 12.Nf3 b5 13.cxb5 cxb5 14.g3 Nc5 15.Nh4 g6 16.Ng2 Ne6 17.f4 f5 18.Bb2 exf4 19.gxf4 fxe4 20.dxe4 Rad8 21.Qg4 Bc5+ 22.Kh1 0-1 Boskovic,M (2713)-Sudgen,J (2760) FIDE GP Moscow rapid 2002 (1.36);

B) 7...Qd6 8.b3 h6 9.a3 0-0 10.Bb2 Nd7 11.b4 Bb6 12.Nc4 Bxc4 13.dxc4 c5 14.Qe2 Qe6 15.Nh4 Kh7 16.Rad1 Rad8 17.Nf5 9 Chapter-Games Chapter 16 Game]

[6...0-0 7.Nc4 Nd7 8.Qe2 Re8 9.Bd2 Bd6 10.h4 Nf8 11.h5 h6 12.0-0-0 c5 13.g4 Ne6 14.g5 hxg5 15.h6 g6 16.h7+ Kh8 17.Nfxe5 Bxe5 18.Nxe5 Qf6 19.Ng4 Qg7 20.f3]

7.Nc4

[7.Nxe5? Qd4 8.0-0 Qxe5-+]

7...Nd7 8.0-0 White has an edge. **8...Qe7 9.c3 Ba6 10.Qa4** -0.38/22

[10.b4= -0.01/19 Bxc4 11.bxc5]

10...Bb5∓ 11.Qb3 a5 12.a4 Ba6 13.Rd1 0-0 14.Bg5 Qe6 15.Ncd2 Qxb3!

[15...Bxd3 16.Qxe6 fxe6 17.Nb3±]

16.Nxb3 Bd6 17.Be3 c5 18.Ne1 c4 19.Nc1 cxd3 20.Ncxd3 Bc4 21.f3 Rad8 22.Rd2 -2.11/22

[22.b4∓ -0.75/20]

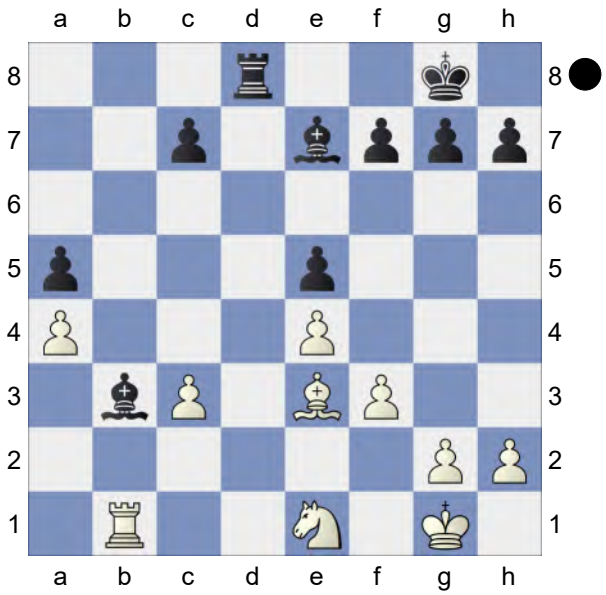
22...Nc5!-+ 23.Nc1 -3.52/24

[23.Rdd1 -1.98/23]

23...Be7 24.b4 Rxd2 25.Bxd2 Rd8 26.Be3 Nb3 -0.70/27

[26...Rd1-+ -4.54/25 27.bxc5 Rxe1+ 28.Kf2 Rf1+ 29.Kg3 h5 *(29...Bxc5? 30.Bxc5 bxc5 31.Nb3-+; 29...bxc5? 30.Nb3-+)*]

27.Nxb3∓ Bxb3 A strong pair of Bishops. **28.bxa5 bxa5 29.Rb1**



Bxa4 -0.20/21 Black is more active.

[29...Bd1!∓ -0.76/23]

30.Ra1= Bb3 31.Rxa5 f6 32.Kf2 Rd1 33.Bc5 Kf7 34.Bxe7 Kxe7 Endgame KRB-KRN **35.Rb5** -0.51/24

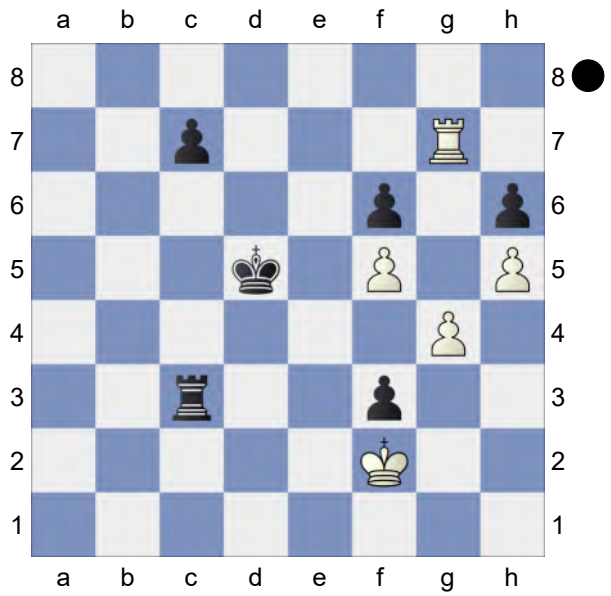
[35.Ra3= -0.05/25 Bc4 36.g4]

35...Be6∓ 36.Ke2 Ra1 37.Rb2 Bc4+ 38.Kd2! Kd6 39.Nc2 Rh1 40.Ne3 Be6 41.h3 h6 42.Rb8 Ra1 43.Rb2 Kc5 44.Rb7 Ra2+ 45.Kd3 Kd6 46.Rb8 Ke7 47.h4 Ra1 48.h5 Ra2 49.Rb1 Kd7 50.Rb8 Ke7 51.Rb1 Ra6 52.g4 Ra2 53.Nf5+ Bxf5 54.exf5= KR-KR **54...Ra8 55.Ke3 Kd6 56.Rb5 Kc6 57.Rb1 Kc5 58.Rd1 Kc6** Prevents Rd7 **59.Rd2 Ra3 60.Rd3 Ra8 61.Rd1 Ra3 62.Rd8 Rxc3+ 63.Kf2 Rc2+ 64.Kg3 Rc3! 65.Kf2 Rc2+ 66.Ke3 Rc3+ 67.Ke2 e4 68.Rg8** -0.84/27

[68.fxe4= -0.03/27 Rg3 69.Rd1]

68...exf3+∓ 69.Kf2 Kd5 70.Rxg7

(Diagram)

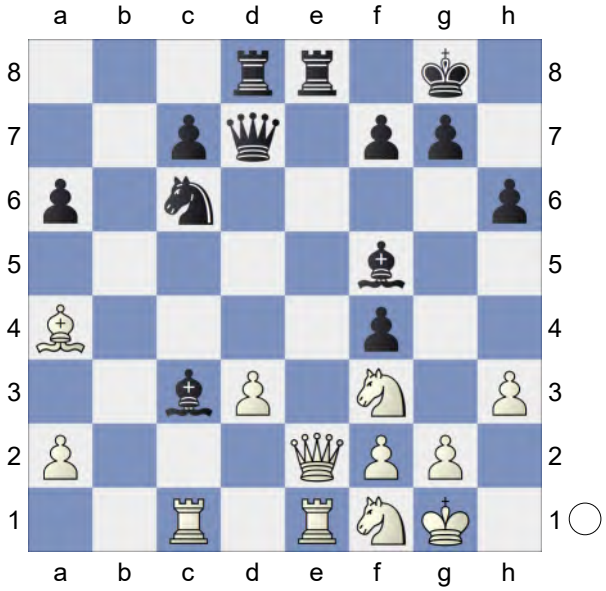


Ke4 -0.37/23
[Black should try 70...c5!∓ -0.95/25 aiming for ...c4. 71.Kg3 c4]
71.g5? -20.79/31 **hxg5** -6.49/25
[71...Kxf5 72.gxh6 Kf4 73.h7 Rc2+ 74.Kg1 Rc1+ 75.Kh2=]
[⌓71...Rc2+ -20.79/31 72.Kf1 hxg5 *(72...Kxf5 73.gxh6 Rh2 74.h7=)*]
72.h6 Rc2+
[72...Kxf5 73.h7 Rc2+ 74.Kg3 Rg2+ *(74...f2 75.h8Q=)* 75.Kh3=]
73.Kg3 Rg2+
[73...Kxf5 74.h7 Rg2+ *(74...f2 75.h8Q=)* 75.Kh3=]
74.Kh3 Rg1
[Inferior is 74...Kxf5 75.h7 Rg1 76.Kh2=]
75.Re7+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise) **75...Kf4**
0-1

8 **C65**
□ **So,W.** **2745**
■ **Gukesh,D.** **2776**
Saint Louis Blitz 2025 (12.2) 15.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

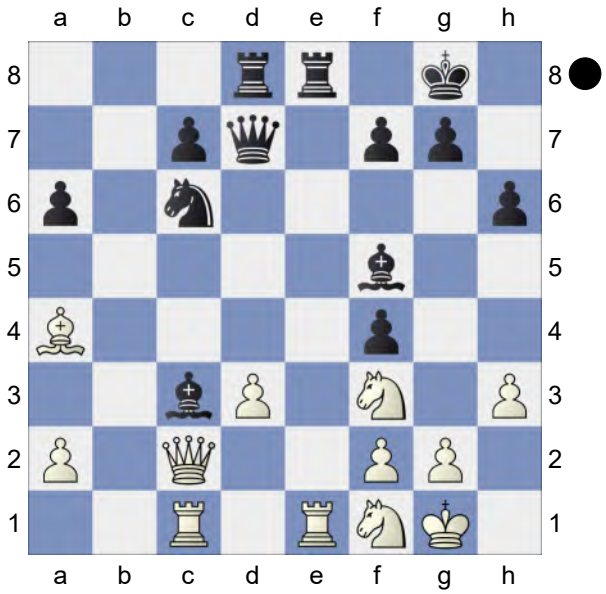
C78: Ruy Lopez: Archangelsk and Möller Defences **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 Re8 7.Nbd2 a6 8.Ba4 b5**
[8...d5 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 Ba7 11.e5 Ne4 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Qc2 Bf5 14.Qxc6 Re6 15.Qa4 c5 16.dxc5 Nxc5 17.Qf4 Bd3 18.b4 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Ng5 Re7 21.Bb2 e3 22.fxe3 Bxf1 23.Rxf1 0-1 Coudrain,J (2554)-Sudgen,J (2778) Oesterreich 69/448 1996]
9.Bb3 d6 10.h3N
[10.Re1 Be6 11.Nf1 Bxb3 12.axb3 d5 13.Qc2 h6 14.Ng3 a5 15.h3 Qd7 16.Be3 Bf8 17.Rad1 Rad8 18.Nf5 Qe6 19.g4 dxe4 20.dxe4 Ne7 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Ra1 Ra8 23.c4 b4 24.g5 hxg5 0-1 Gelfand,B (2740)-Carlsen,M (2872) Candidates Tournament 2013 (3) 25.Nxg5 Qc8 26.Nxe7+ Bxe7 27.Kh2 Ra6 28.Rg1 Nd7 29.Qe2 Rg6 30.Qh5 Nf6 31.Qf3 Rh6 32.Ne6 Rh7 33.Ng5 Rh4 34.Rg2 Qd7 35.Rg1 g6 36.Bc1 Qe8 37.Be3 a4 38.bxa4 Qxa4 39.Bc1 b3 1-0 Carlsen,M (2872)-Grischuk,A (2764) Candidates Tournament 2013 (4) 40.Qg3 Rh5 41.Qd3 Qc6 42.Be3 Rh4 43.Kg3 Rh8 44.Kh2 Kg7 45.c5 Qa4 46.Qc3 Re8 47.Qd3 Rd8 48.Qc3 Qb5 49.Kg2 Rd3 50.Qc1 Nh5 51.Nf3 Qb4 52.Qe1 Qa4 53.Nxe5 Qxe4+ 54.Nf3 Nf4+ 0-1 ♘d7 10.d4 (2793)-C 06/32 (2809) 56/225 Tilburg 1992 (6)]
10...h6 11.Re1 Be6 12.Bc2 d5

13.Qe2 Bb6 Black is slightly better.
14.exd5 Nxd5 Threatens to win with ... Nf4. **15.Nf1 Bf5 16.Bd2** -0.41/19
[16.a4!= 0.01/21]
16...Qd7∓ 17.Rad1 Rad8 18.Bc1 -0.86/20
[18.Ng3= -0.29/19 keeps the balance.]
18...b4 Black has more active pieces.
19.Bd2 bxc3 20.bxc3 Ba5 0.16/23
[20...Bg6!∓ -0.52/21]
21.Ba4!= and d4 should not be overlooked **21...Bxc3** 2.45/24
[21...Nxc3 22.Bxc3 Bxc3 23.Qc2±]
[21...Bg6= -0.18/21 and Black is okay.]
22.Rc1!+- Nf4 23.Bxf4 1.06/26
[23.Qd1!+- 2.84/24 and the rest is easy. Bxd2 24.Bxc6 Bxe1 25.Bxd7 Discovered Attack Bxf2+ 26.Kxf2 Rxd7 27.Ne1]
23...exf4±



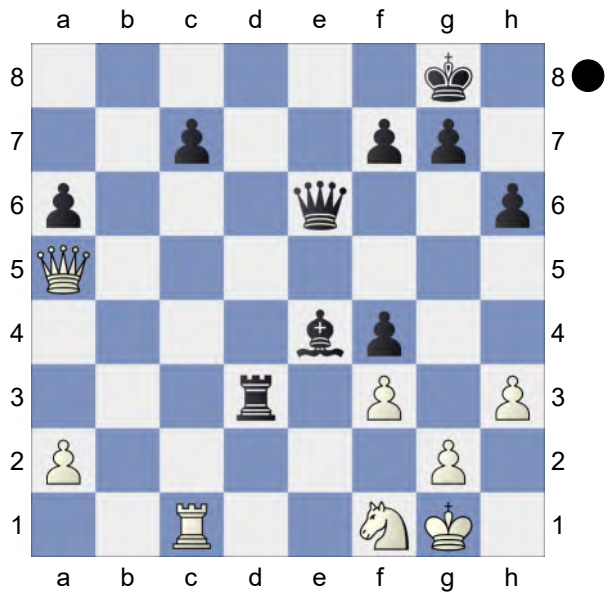
24.Qc2 -3.02/27
[24.Qd1!± 1.41/26 Rxe1 *(24...Bxe1 25.Bxc6 Bxf2+ 26.Kxf2±)* 25.Nxe1]

(Diagram)



White is weak on the dark squares
24...Rxe1!-+
[24...Bxd3? 25.Rxe8+ *(25.Qxc3 Rxe1* Remove Defender *26.Nxe1 Bb5+-)* 25...Rxe8 26.Qxc3+-]
[24...Bxe1 25.Bxc6 Qxd3 26.Qxd3 *(26.Nxe1 Qxc2 27.Nxc2 Re5∓)* 26...Bxf2+ 27.Kxf2∓]
25.Nxe1 Bxe1 This pair of bishops is nice.
[25...Bxd3? 26.Qxc3 Nd4 27.Bxd7+-]
26.Bxc6 Qe6
[And not 26...Qxd3 27.Qxd3 Bxf2+ 28.Kxf2±]
27.Be4 Ba5 28.Qc5 Bxe4 29.Qxa5 Rxd3 30.f3

(Diagram)

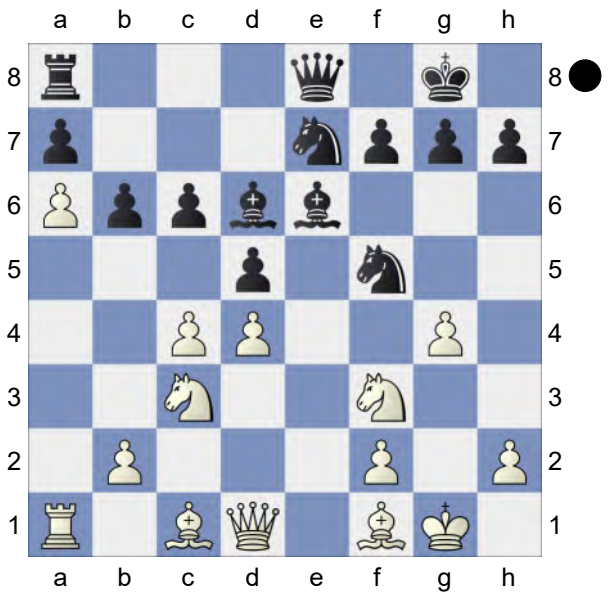


Bxf3 Demolition **31.gxf3** **Rxf3** (→ ...Qg6+)
[Not 31...Qxh3 32.Nh2∓]
32.Qxc7? -#7/16
[32.Rc2-+ -3.33/22 Rxh3 33.Qxc7]
32...Qg6+
[32...Qxh3? 33.Qc8+ Qxc8 34.Rxc8+ Kh7 35.Rc4-+]
33.Kh1 **Rxh3+** **34.Nh2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.63/Black=0.30 **34...Qe4+** **0-1**

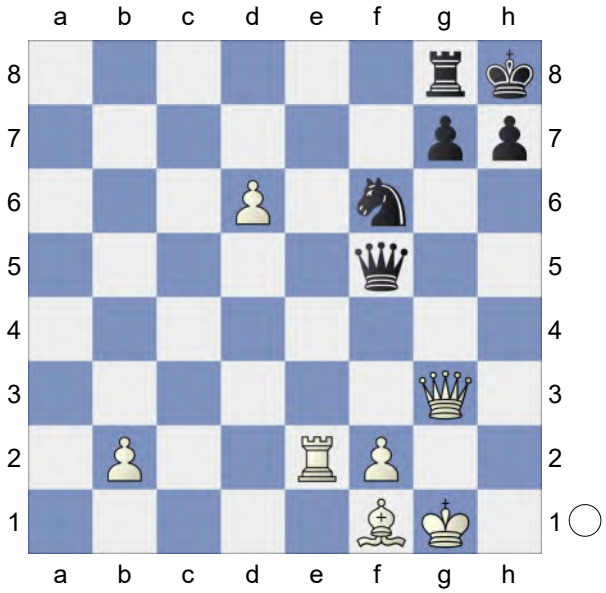
9 **C67**
□ **Caruana,F.** **2784**
■ **Le,Quang Liem** **2729**
Saint Louis Rapid 2025 (8.2) 13.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4** **e5** **2.Nf3** **Nc6** **3.Bb5** **Nf6** **4.0-0** **Nxe4** **5.Re1** **Nd6** **6.Nxe5** **Be7** **7.Bf1** **Nf5** **8.Nf3** **0-0** **9.d4** **d5** White is slightly better. **10.c3** **Bd6** **11.a4N**
[11.Bd3 Re8 *(11...Nce7 12.Nbd2 c6 13.Nf1 Ng6 14.Qc2 Nfh4 15.Nxh4 Qxh4 16.g3 Qd8 17.Ne3 Re8 18.Bd2 Nf8 19.Nf5 Bc7 20.Rxe8 Qxe8 21.Re1 Be6 22.Qc1 f6 23.Qd1 Qd7 24.Qf3 Re8 25.h4 Bf7 26.Rf1* ½-½ Molina,R (2826)-Buchicchio,G (2800) B) 8... ♖b8 (7) *; 11...h6 12.Nbd2 Qf6 13.Nf1 Be6 14.Ng3 Nxg3 15.hxg3 Rfe8 16.Qb3 a6 17.Bd2 Na5 18.Qc2 Nc4 19.b3 Nxd2 20.Qxd2 Bd7 21.b4 Kf8 22.a3 Rxe1+ 23.Rxe1 Re8 24.Rxe8+ Bxe8 25.Qe3 Qe7 26.Ne5* ½-½ Maze,S (2559)-Pashikian,A (2642) EU-ch 12th Aix les Bains 2011 (8)*)* 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3 Nxe3 14.fxe3 f5 15.Qc2 Qf6 16.Qb3 Ne7 17.Nbd2 Kh8 18.c4 c6 19.Rf1 Qh6 20.Rae1 b6 21.Qc2 g6 22.cxd5 cxd5 23.Bb5 Rf8 24.Bc6 Rb8 25.Ne5 Bxe5 0-1 Elistratov,S (1563)-Moller,B (1879) German League 2011 (2)]
[11.Na3 Bxa3 12.bxa3 Nce7 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bf4 Ng6 15.Bg3 c6 16.Bd3 Rf7 17.Qc2 Nxg3 18.hxg3 Nf8 19.Rab1 g6 20.c4 Be6 21.c5 Qa5 22.Re3 Rd8 23.Rbe1 Bc8 24.Re8 Qc7 25.R8e3 Rdd7 0-1 Simonian,H (2431)-Bruzon Batista,L (2610) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (7)]
11...Re8 **12.Rxe8+** **Qxe8** **13.a5** **Nce7** **14.a6** **b6** **15.c4** **Be6** **16.Nc3!** **c6** **17.g4**

(Diagram)



Nh6 18.h3 Rd8 19.Qc2 0.62/22
[19.cxd5± 1.10/21 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Bxd5 21.Bg2]
19...f5!± 20.Ng5 Bc8 1.12/24
[20...Bd7± 0.58/24]
21.Bd2 0.72/22 White is more active.
[White should try 21.cxd5 1.12/24 cxd5 22.Nb5]
21...Qg6 22.cxd5 Nxd5 2.04/26
[22...cxd5± 1.13/24 23.Rc1 *(23.Nb5 Bb8±)* 23...Nf7 24.Nxf7 Kxf7]
23.Nxd5+- cxd5 24.Rc1 A mistake that costs the game. **24...Be7?** 6.69/22
[24...Bd7± 1.57/23]
25.Qxc8 Bxg5 26.Bxg5 Qxg5 27.Qe6+ Kh8 28.Rc8 fxg4 29.Qe5 Qh4 30.Rc7 Rg8 31.Qg3
[31.Rxa7 gxh3 32.Qg3 *(32.Qxd5? Rf8-+)* 32...Qxd4 33.Bxh3 Qe4±]
31...Qf6 32.Rxa7 b5 33.hxg4
[33.Bxb5 Nf5 34.Qf4 *(34.Qxg4 Nxd4 35.Bf1 Nf3+ 36.Kh1 Nh2±)* 34...gxh3=]
33...Qb6 34.Rd7 Qxa6 35.Rxd5 Qe6 36.Rxb5 Nxg4 37.d5 1.82/23
[⌓37.b4 3.83/25 and Rb8 would now be decisive Nf6 38.Rb8]
37...Qc8 2.84/21
[37...Qe4 1.82/23 might work better. 38.d6 Nf6]
38.d6 Nf6 39.Re5 Qc2 40.Re2 Qf5



41.Bh3! Qb1+ 5.11/25
[⌓41...Qb5 3.63/24 42.Re7 Qxb2]
42.Kh2 White is clearly winning. **42...Rf8** 7.16/22
[⌓42...Qd1 4.69/22]
43.Re7 Nh5 44.Qf3 Double Attack **44...Nf6 45.d7 Qa2** Prevents Rf7. **46.Qg3 Nh5 47.Re8 Qf7 48.Rxf8+ Qxf8 49.Qe3 Nf6** Dodges Qe8 **50.Qd4 Qd8 51.b4 h5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/Black=0.61 **52.b5**
1-0

10 **C67**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,M.** **2736**
■ **So,W.** **2745**
Saint Louis Rapid 2025 (9.5) 13.08.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 This game features an important deviation that White can choose on the 5th move - 5.Re1. This continuation became higly popular recently. In this

variation White can go for a calm position and play without risks or sacrifice a pawn for an initiative. In my analysis, I prove that Black keeps a promising position in both cases. Let's take a look at the high-level game Najer, E - Bacrot played in 2012. The critical position arises after the moves **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re2**

[10.Re1 Re8 *(10...Nf5 11.d5 d6 12.Nd2 h6 13.c3 Bd7 14.Bd3 a5 15.Ne4 Re8 16.Bd2 Nh4 17.Qc2 a4 18.Rac1 Be5 19.f4 Bf6 20.Be3 g6 21.Nxf6+ Qxf6 22.Qf2 Nf5 23.Bd2 h5 24.h3 Kf8 25.Be4* 1-0 Coles,R (2167)-Morawietz,D (2396) Biel HTO 56th 2023 (10)*)* 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Nc3 Bxd4 14.Nd5 d6 15.Bg5 Bf6 16.Nxf6+ Nxf6 17.Bxf6 gxf6 18.Bd3 f5 19.Qe3 Be6 20.Qf3 c6 21.Bxf5 Bxf5 22.Qxf5 Qe7 23.Qg4+ Kf8 24.Qd4 f6 ½-½ Najer,E (2640)-Bacrot,E (2706) 13th EICC Plovdiv BUL 2012 (5.14)]

10...b6 11.Re1 Bb7N The position is equal.

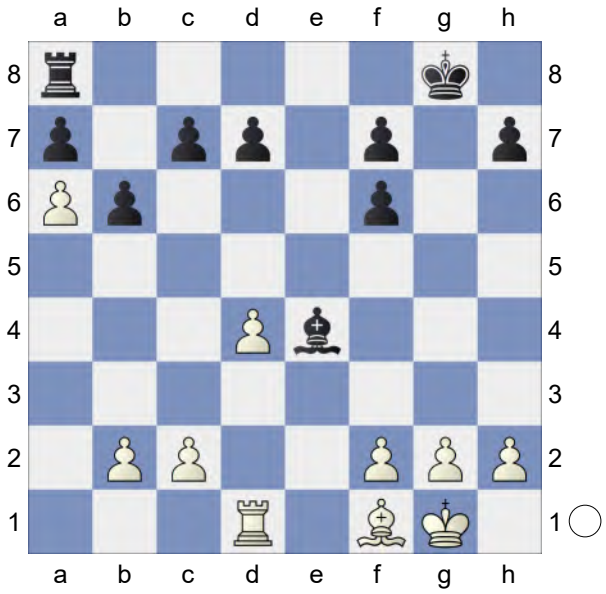
[11...Re8 12.Bf4 Rxe1 13.Qxe1 Ne8 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qd2 d5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.Bd3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Qxd5 Be7 22.Re3 Bf8 23.Rh3+ Kg8 24.Qh5 f6 25.Qh8+ *(25.g4 Qe8 26.Qh7+ Kf7 27.Qh5+ Kg8 28.Qh7+ Kf7 29.Re3 Qc6 30.g5 fxg5 31.Bxd6 Bxd6 32.Qf5+ Kg8 33.Qe6+ Kf8 34.Re5* 1-0 Svane,R (2594)-Mcshane,L (2675) Deutschland 151/125 2021*)* 25...Kf7 26.Qh5+ 1-0 Svane,R (2594)-Mcshane,L (2675) Bundesliga 1920 2019 (12.5)]

12.a4 Re8 13.Rxe8+ Qxe8 14.a5 Qe4 15.a6 Bc6 16.Be3 Nf5 1.04/24

[16...Qe6± 0.44/21]

17.Nc3± Nxe3 18.Nxe4 Nxd1 19.Nxf6+ gxf6 20.Rxd1 Endgame KRB-KRB **20...Be4** 1.57/23

[⌓20...d5 1.03/23]



21.f3! Bg6

[21...Bxc2? 22.Rc1 Ba4 23.Rxc7+-]

22.d5 1.09/23

[⌓22.Kf2 1.53/20]

22...Kf8

[22...Bxc2? 23.Rc1 Bb3 24.Rxc7 Bxd5 25.Rxd7+-]

23.d6 0.88/24

[White should play 23.Kf2 1.31/22]

23...c6

[23...Bxc2? 24.Rc1 Bb3 25.Rxc7+-]

24.c3 b5 1.49/24

[⌓24...Re8 0.87/21]

25.b4 Re8 Against Re1 **26.Kf2** Prevents Re3 **26...Bc2 27.Rd2 Bb1** 2.83/24

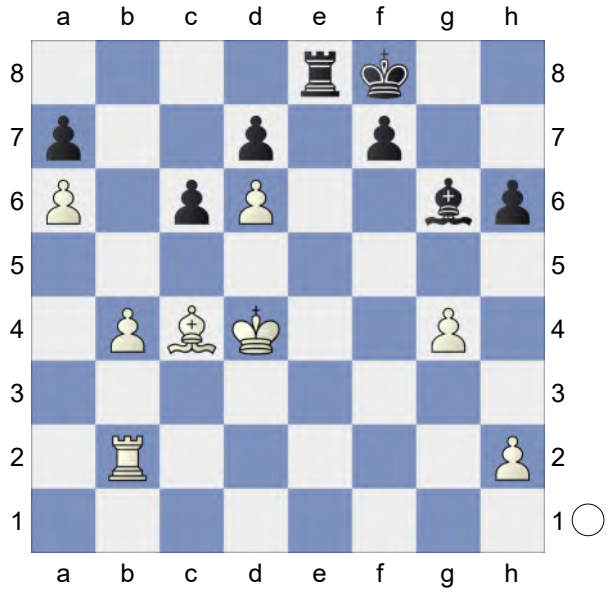
[27...Bf5± 1.38/24 28.g4 Be6]

28.g4+- Strongly threatening h4.

28...h6? 4.21/25

[28...Kg7 2.35/24 29.Re2 Rxe2+

30.Bxe2 f5]
29.c4 bxc4 30.Bxc4 Rb8 31.Rb2 1.96/27
[⩲31.Ke3 4.02/28]
31...Bg6 32.Ke3 f5 33.Kd4 White is more active. **33...fxg4 34.fxg4 Re8** 5.63/32
[34...f6± 1.22/25 is more resistant. 35.Kc3 Re8]

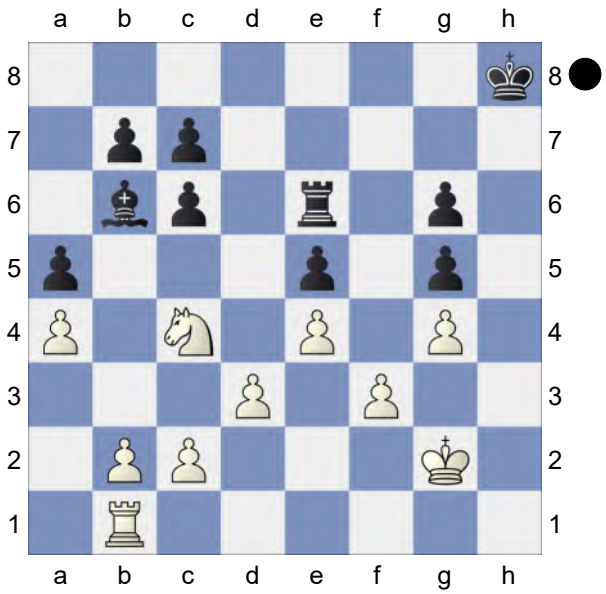


35.b5! White is clearly winning.
35...cxb5 36.Rxb5
[36.Bxb5 Rb8±]
36...Be4 Dodges Rb7 **37.Re5** White threatens Rxe8+ and mate.
37...Rxe5 38.Kxe5 Bf3 39.Kf5 f6 40.h3
[Weaker is 40.Kxf6 Bxg4 41.Bd3 h5±]
40...Bg2 41.h4 Bf3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) / Black=0.47 **42.h5**
[42.Kxf6 Bxg4 43.Bb5 h5±]
1-0

11 **C65**
□ **Carlsen,M.** **2839**
■ **Gukesh,D.** **2776**
SuperUnited CRO Blitz 2025 (4.4) 5.7.25
[Kitty Kat]

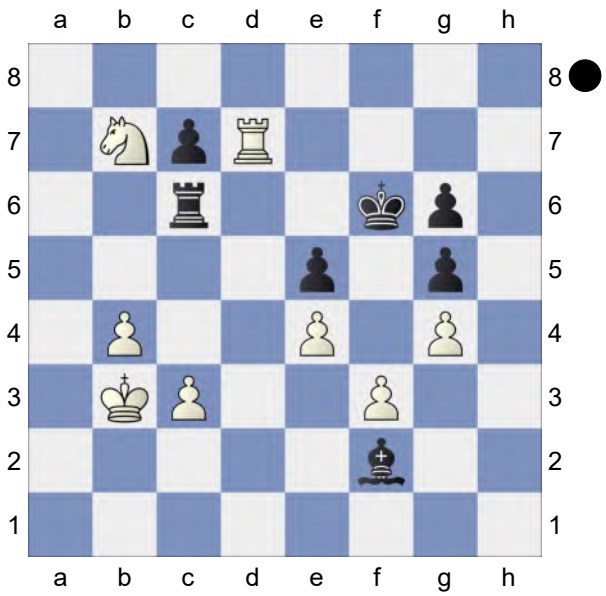
C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 In this game Magnus shows his creativity in handling the middlegame. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.Be3 Bd6 8.Bg5** The position is equal.
[8.h3 Re8 9.0-0 Nd7 10.Nd2 Nf8 11.Ne2 Ne6 12.Kh1 c5 13.a4 Nf4 14.Ng1 Be6 15.b3 f6 16.Nc4 Bf8 17.Bd2 Qd7 18.Kh2 Rad8 19.Qf3 Qf7 20.g3 Ng6 21.Ne3 Ne7 22.Ne2 Nc6 1-0 4.♘c3 ♘d4 5.♗d3_39215 (2468)-Kumari,P (2603) 134/(22) Russia 2017 (1.3)]
8...h6N
[8...Re8 9.h3 c5 10.Nd5 Be7 11.Nxe7+ Qxe7 12.0-0 h6 13.Be3 Nd7 14.Nd2 Nb8 15.f4 exf4 16.Rxf4 Nc6 17.Qh5 b6 18.Raf1 Rf8 19.Nf3 Be6 20.Rh4 f6 21.Qg6 Qf7 22.Qg3 Nb4 23.Bxh6 Chapter Fast Lane-Games Chapter Fast Lane Nxc2 24.Ne5 fxe5 25.Rxf7 Rxf7 26.Qg6 Bxa2 27.Bg5 Rff8 28.Rh7 Rf7 29.Bf6 1-0 Carlsen,M (2837)-Karjakin, S (2760) Riyadh (blitz) 135/117 2017]
[8...Qe7 9.h3 Re8 10.g4 Qe6 11.Nh4 Nd7 12.Nf5 Nc5 13.h4 Bf8 14.h5 f6 15.Be3 Qf7 16.f4 exf4 17.Bxf4 b5 18.Qf3 Ne6 19.Be3 Bb7 20.0-0-0 b4 21.Na4 c5 22.h6 g6 23.Ng7 1-0 Carlsen,M (2881)-Grischuk,A (2784) chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2020]
9.Bh4 Bg4 0.42/20
[9...Qe7= 0.04/19]

10.h3± Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Be7 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.g3 Qd7 14.h4 Be7 15.0-0 Bc5 16.Kg2 Bd4 17.Ne2 Bb6 18.g4 g6 19.Ng3 0.12/19
[19.Qg3± 0.48/17]
19...Qe7 20.Rh1 Rad8 0.53/21
[20...Bc5= 0.12/19 should be considered.]
21.a4
[21.Qe2 is more complex. Kg7 22.Qd2 Rh8 23.h5]
21...a5 22.Qe2 Rd6 23.Qd2 Kg7 24.h5 Qg5 25.Qxg5 hxg5 26.Nf1 Rf6 27.f3 Rf4 28.hxg6 fxg6 29.Rh3 This move loses the game for Black.
29...Rh8? 3.27/28
[29...Bd4± 0.72/24]
30.Rxh8+- Kxh8 Endgame KRB-KRN
31.Nd2 Rf6 32.Nc4 Re6 33.Rb1



c5 34.Rh1+ Kg7 35.Kf2 Ba7 36.Nxa5 Hoping for Ra1!. **36...c4+?** 5.03/26
[36...Ra6 2.94/24 was worth a try.]
37.Ke2 cxd3+ 38.Kxd3 Rd6+ 39.Kc4 Ra6 40.Nxb7 Rxa4+ 41.b4 Ra6 42.Rd1 Rc6+ 43.Kb3 Bd4 44.Rd3 Kf6 45.c3 Bf2 46.Rd7

(Diagram)



Nd8 would kill now. **46...Rb6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) / Black=0.70 **47.Rxc7** 11.55/23
[⌓47.Nd8 #3/8 Rxb4+ 48.cxb4 Bh4 49.Rf7#]
1-0

12 **C87**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2784**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2725**
Zagreb Superbet Blitz (11) 06.07.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C87: Closed Ruy Lopez: Steinitz-type lines after 6 Re1 d6 We have seen in a couple of examples in my favorite Breyer system what happens when White gets the dream setup; now it is time to look at what can happen when things get out of control in a similar structure! The following game is extremely instructive. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.c3 0-0 7.Re1 a6 8.Ba4 b5 9.Bc2 Re8 10.Nbd2 Bf8 11.h3 h6N**
[11...Bb7 12.d4 g6 13.a3 Nb8 14.d5 c6 15.c4 Nbd7 16.a4 Qc7

17.b3 Rec8 18.Ra2 bxc4 19.bxc4 a5 20.Nf1 Ba6 21.Ne3 Nc5 22.Nd2 cxd5 23.cxd5 Rab8 24.Ba3 Qd8 25.Qf3 h5 26.Raa1 4.1) Model Games: Zaitsev-Bre-Alireza Firouzja-Magnus Carls Super Grandmaster Strategy: Leko's Ruy 2024]

12.a4 has lost popularity (12.d4). verliert an Beliebtheit (12.d4). **12...Bb7 13.Nf1 d5** The position is equal. **14.Qe2 b4 15.a5 Rb8N**

[15...g6 0.49/20 15...Rb8 0.01 16.Ne3 Bg7 17.Bd2 0.11/19 (Better is *17.Bb3!±* 0.77/19) 17...Rb8= 18.Nh2 Ba8 19.Nhg4 Nxg4 20.Nxg4 h5 21.Nh2 Qd6 0-1 Proudian,A (2274)-Duff,R (2113) Gibraltar Masters 12th 2014 (7)]

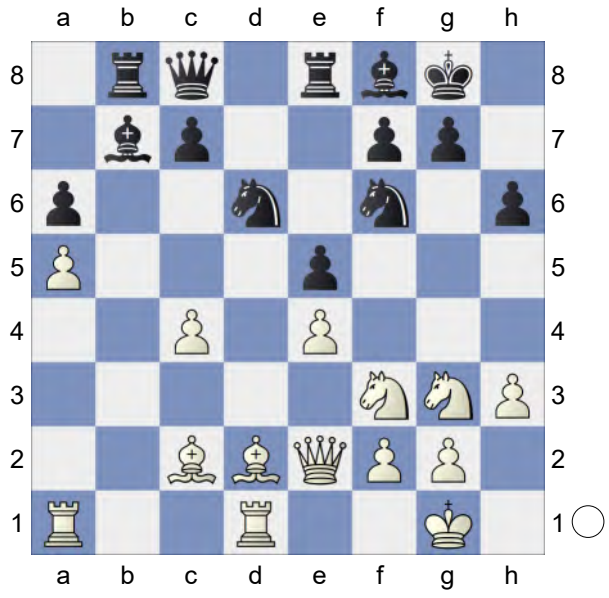
16.Ng3 bxc3 17.bxc3 Na7 18.Bd2 dxe4 19.dxe4 Nb5 20.Red1 0.06/20

[20.c4± 0.65/23 Nd4 21.Nxd4 exd4 22.Qd3]

20...Qc8 0.74/21

[20...Nd7= 0.06/20 keeps the balance.]

21.c4± Nd6



22.c5 0.18/21

[22.Bc3!± 0.87/21]

22...Nb5= 23.Bb4 Bc6 24.Bb3 Bd7 25.Bc4 -0.20/22

[25.Rab1± 0.40/21]

25...Be6 26.Nxe5 -0.63/23

[26.Bd3= -0.21/21]

26...Bxc4∓ 27.Nxc4 Qe6 28.Rac1 Nxe4 29.Nxe4 Qxe4 30.Qxe4 Rxe4 31.Kf1 Nd4 32.f3 Ree8 -0.10/23

[32...Rf4!∓ -0.65/24 33.Be1 Ne6 *(33...Bxc5 34.Bg3=)*]

33.Rxd4= Rxb4 34.c6 -1.45/26

[34.Nd6= -0.16/23 Rxd4 35.Nxe8]

34...Rb5 -0.74/22

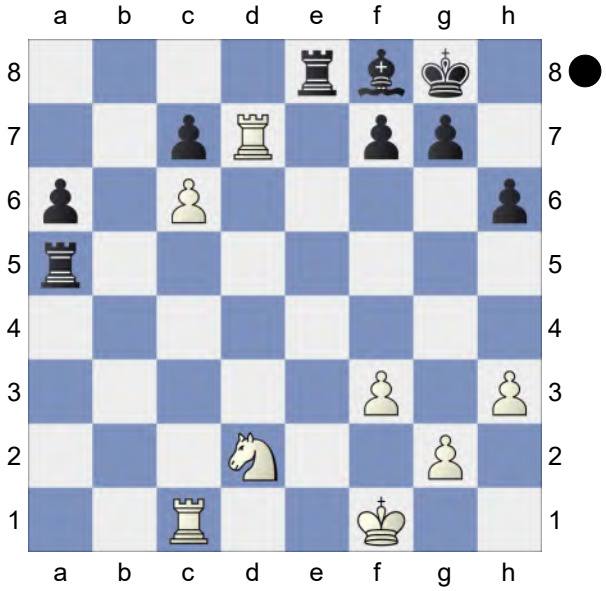
[34...Re6 -1.45/26 35.f4 h5 *(35...Rxc6? 36.Ke2-+)*]

35.Nd2 -1.40/23

[35.Rd7 Rc5 36.g3 *(36.Rxc7 Bd6∓)* 36...Rb8 *(36...Rxc6? 37.Rd4-+)*]

[⌓35.Re1 -0.74/22 Rxe1+ 36.Kxe1]

35...Rxa5 36.Rd7



Ra2 -0.72/22

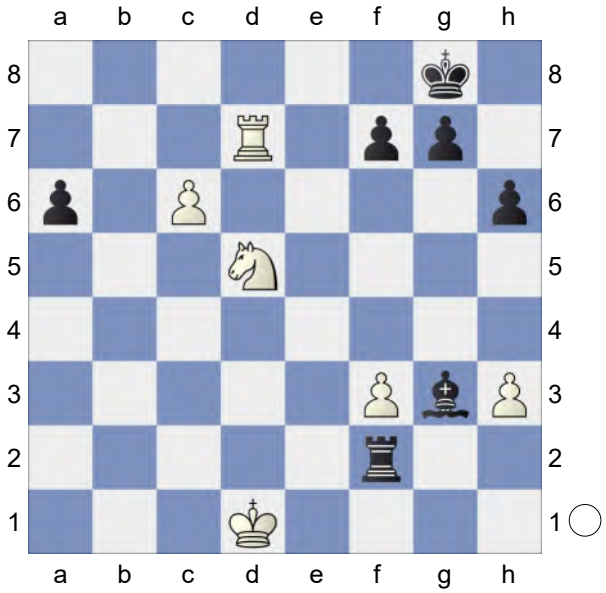
[36...Rc8! -1.47/21 and ...Rb5 should not be overlooked 37.h4 Rb5]

37.Ne4∓ Rc8 0.01/20

[Black should try 37...Ba3∓ -0.82/25 38.Re1 Re6 39.Rxc7 Rc2]

38.Nc3!= Rb2 39.Nd5↑ White is

pushing. **39...Re8!**
[39...Bd6? 40.Rxd6 Re8 *(40...cxd6? 41.Ne7+ Kh7 42.Nxc8+-)* 41.Kg1 *(41.Nxc7 Ree2±)* 41...cxd6 42.c7+-]
40.Re1 Dodges Ree2 **40...Rxe1+**
41.Kxe1 This costs Black the game.
41...Rxg2? 2.82/27
[41...Rb5= 0.01/25 and Black stays safe.]
42.Rxc7 Endgame KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **42...Bd6 43.Rd7 Bg3+?** 5.73/28
[43...Rg6 2.70/23 is a better chance. 44.Ke2 Re6+ 45.Kf1 Bg3]
44.Kd1+- and f4 should not be overlooked. White is clearly winning.
44...Rf2

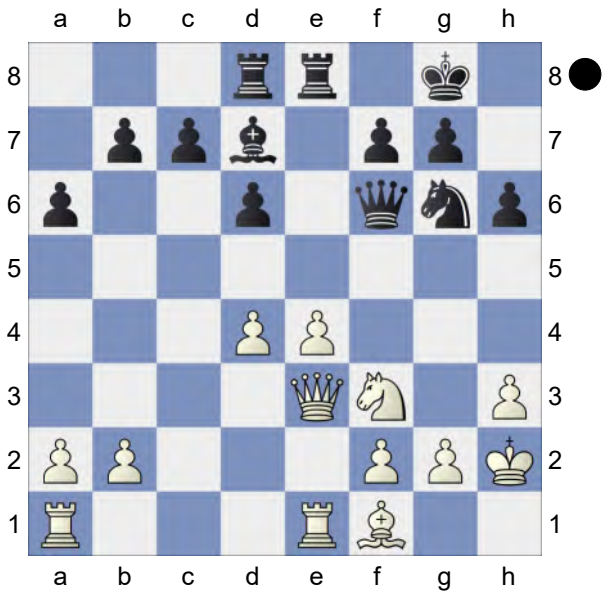


45.f4 Bxf4 46.Nxf4 Rxf4 KR-KR. Black is two pawns up. **47.c7 Rc4 48.Rd8+ Kh7 49.c8Q**
[Not 49.c8B a5=]
49...Rxc8 50.Rxc8 Kg6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.40
51.Ke2
1-0

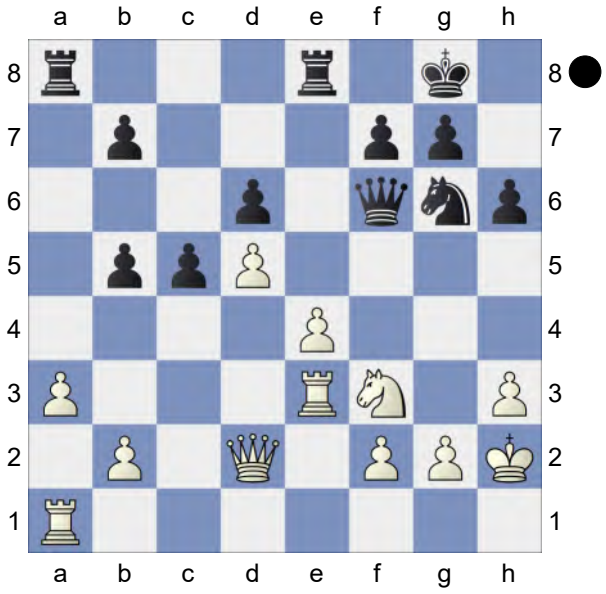
13 **C65**
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun** **2782**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2767**
2nd UzChess Cup Masters (4.3) 22.06.25
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 Re8 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4** White is slightly better. **8...Be7 9.Bg3N**
[9.Nbd2 d6 10.a4 *(10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.d4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Bd7 13.Re1 c5 14.Nf5 Bxf5 15.exf5 Nd7 16.Bg3 Bf6 17.Ne4 Be5 18.f4 Bf6 19.Bf2 Rb8 20.Re2 Bh4 21.g3 Be7 22.Qd3 Nf6 23.Rae1 Nxe4 24.Rxe4 Qd7* 1-0 Mista,A (2556)-Svetushkin,D (2591) FRA-chT Top 12 2015 (9.1)*)* 10...a6 11.Bc4 Nh5 12.Ng5 *(12.Bg3 g6 13.Re1 Bf6 14.Nf1 Nxg3 15.hxg3 Nb8 16.Ne3 c6 17.a5 Kg7 18.Qc2 h5 19.d4 Qe7 20.Rad1 h4 21.dxe5 dxe5 22.gxh4 Bxh4 23.g3 Bf6 24.Kg2 Nd7 25.Rh1 b5 26.axb6 Nxb6* 1-0 Breiksh,P (2560)-Cornforth,J (2633) (zt) 20/(242) 1975 (9)*)* 12...Bxg5 13.Qxh5 Be6 14.Bxg5 Qxg5 15.Qxg5 hxg5 16.Bxe6 Rxe6 17.b4 a5 18.b5 Nb8 19.Nc4 Nd7 20.f3 g6 21.Kf2 Kg7 22.Rh1 f5 23.Ke2 g4 ½-½ Balogh,C (2471)-Borgo,G (2425) Mitropa Cup 22nd 2003 (9)]
[9.Re1 d6 10.Nbd2 g5 11.Bg3 g4 12.Nh4 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Bxh4 14.Bxh4 Qxh4 15.d4 f5 16.Ng3 f4 17.Qd3 Kg7 18.d5 fxg3 19.hxg3 Qg5 20.dxc6 Bf5 21.Qe3 b6 22.Qxg5+ hxg5 23.Rad1 Rh8 0-1 Jimenez G,G (2688)-C 06/32 (2797) 61/(622) Chicago 1994 (7)]
9...d6 10.h3 Bd7 11.Nbd2 Nh5

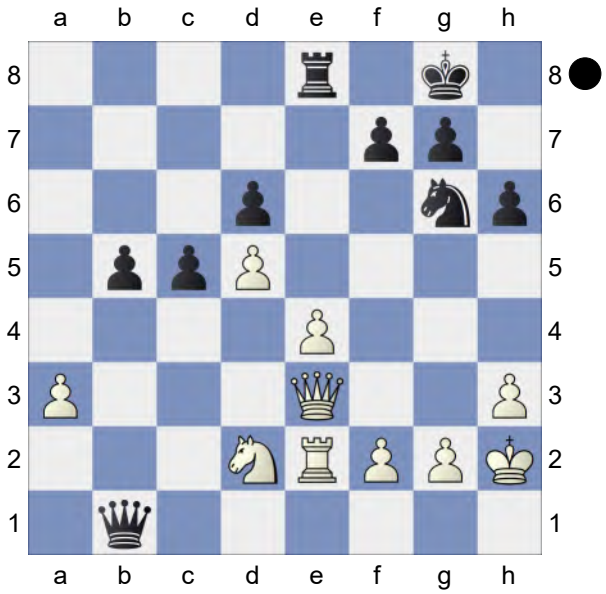
12.Bh2 Bg5 13.Nxg5 Qxg5 14.Nf3 Qf6 15.Re1 a6 16.Bc4 Nf4 17.d4 Rad8 18.Bxf4 Qxf4 19.Qc1 Qf6 20.Qe3 Ne7 21.Bf1 Ng6 22.Kh2 exd4 23.cxd4



c5! 24.Qd2
[24.e5 dxe5]
24...Bc6 25.d5 Bb5 26.Bxb5 axb5 27.a3 Ra8 28.Re3



b4! 29.Rae1
[29.Rb1 Ra4]
29...bxa3 30.Rxa3 Rxa3 31.bxa3 b5 32.Qe3 Qb2 33.Re2 Qb1 34.Nd2

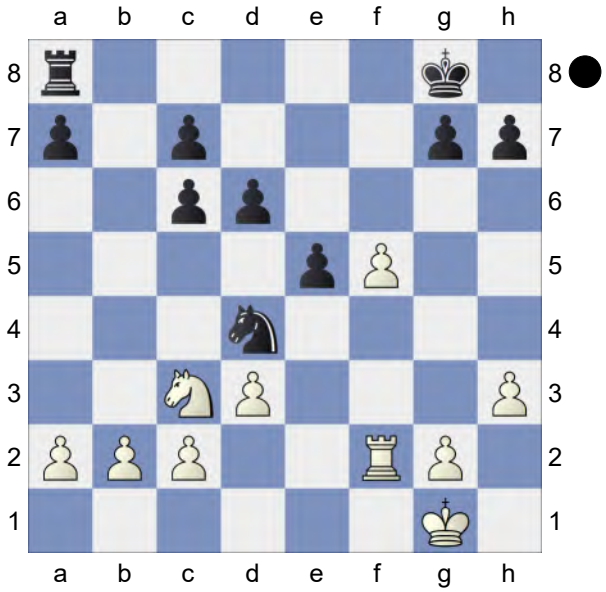


Qa1 -0.39/24
[Black should play 34...Qd1!∓ -1.08/21 and ...f5 should not be overlooked 35.Re1 Qc2]
35.Re1 -0.97/24
[35.Qb3∓ -0.39/24]
35...Qe5+∓ 36.g3 Qb2 -0.33/22
[36...Qe7∓ -0.76/21]
37.Rb1∓ Qc2 38.Rxb5 c4! Inhibits Rb3. **39.Kg2 c3** Black has compensation. **40.Nf3 Rc8! 41.Qe1** Inhibits Qd1. **41...Qd3 42.Rb1**
[Don't blunder 42.Rb3? f5 43.exf5 Ne5 44.Nxe5 *(44.Qe3? Qxe3 45.fxe3 c2-+)* 44...Qxd5+ 45.Kh2 Qxb3-+]
42...c2 43.Rc1 Qxa3 The position is equal. **44.Qd2 Qa4 45.Qe2 Rc4 46.Qd2 Rc5 47.Qe2 Rc4 48.Qd2 f6 49.Ne1 Rxe4 50.Nxc2 Rc4**
[50...f5 keeps more tension. 51.Ne3 f4 52.Nf5 fxg3 53.Rc8+ Re8]
51.Ne3 Rxc1 52.Qxc1= Endgame KQN-KQN **52...Qe4+ 53.Kg1 Ne5 54.Qc8+**
[54.Qc2 Qxc2 55.Nxc2 g6 56.f4]
54...Kf7
[54...Kh7 55.Qc2 Qxc2 56.Nxc2 Kg6]

55.Qe6+
[55.Qf5 simplifies Qxf5 56.Nxf5 Nc4 57.Kg2]
55...Kg6 56.Qxd6 Nf3+ 57.Kg2 Ng5+ 58.Kh2 Nf3+ 59.Kg2 Ng5+ 60.Kh2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
60...Nf3+
½-½

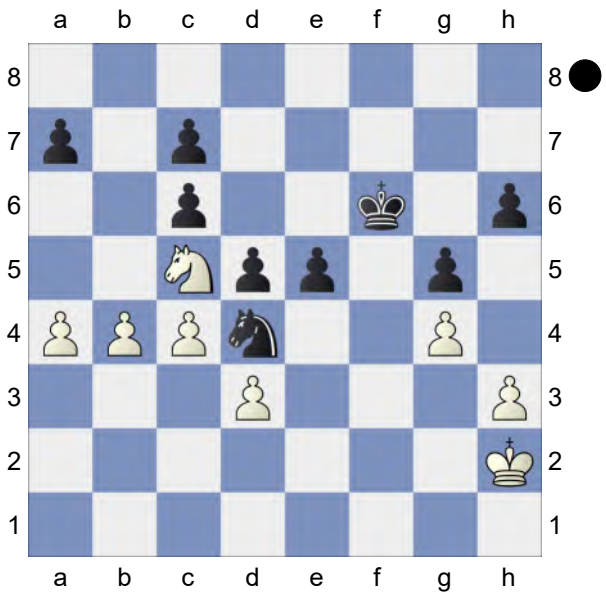
14 **C65**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2743**
■ **Le,Quang Liem** **2729**
Leon 38th blitz (2.3) 06.07.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Be3 Bxe3**
[5...Qe7 6.Bxc6 bxc6 7.Bxc5 Qxc5 8.Nc3 0-0 9.0-0 Rb8 10.Qd2 Qe7 11.b3 c5 12.h3 d6 Ivanchuk,V (2765)-Carlsen,M (2823) Sao Paulo/Bilbao (m/2-blitz) 113/(110) 2011]
6.fxe3 d6 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bxc6N
[8.Qe1 Ne7 9.Nc3 c6 10.Ba4 Ng6 4]
[8.Nbd2 Ne7 9.Nh4 c6 10.Ba4 d5 11.Bb3 Be6 12.Qf3 a5 13.exd5 cxd5 14.Qg3 Nc6 Areshchenko,A (2694)-Kryvoruchko,Y (2640) Ukraine (ch) 2011]
[8.Nc3 Ne7 9.Bc4 Ng6 10.Bb3 Be6 11.Qe1 3.Bb5-Nf6-4.d3-Bc5-5.0-0-For Both Colors]
8...bxc6 9.Nc3 Nd7!?N New and interessant. Theoretisch interessant.
[9...c5 10.b3 Be6 11.Qe1 g6 12.h3 Nh5 13.g4 Ng7 14.Qg3 f6 15.Rf2 Qe7 16.Raf1 Rf7 17.Kh2 ½-½ Ivanchuk,V (2775)-Ponomariov,R (2723) Beijing Sportaccord blitz 2011 (10)]
10.Qe1 f5 0.65/20
[10...f6= 0.16/19]
11.exf5± Rxf5 White is slightly better. **12.h3 Nf8 13.Qg3 Ng6 14.Rf2 Qe7 15.Raf1 Bd7 16.Nd2 Rxf2 17.Rxf2 Qh4 18.Qxh4 Nxh4 19.Nc4 Nf5 20.e4 Nd4 21.Ne3 Be6 22.Nf5** -0.67/27
[White should play 22.b3= 0.01/22]
22...Bxf5∓ 23.exf5 Endgame



KRN-KRN **23...Rf8! 24.g4 g6! 25.f6 g5 26.Ne4** -0.88/24
[26.Kh2∓ -0.51/26 feels stronger.]
26...h6∓ 27.Kh2 Kf7 28.b4 -1.22/22
[⌓28.Kg3 -0.71/22]
28...Kg6 -0.63/24
[28...Ne6∓ -1.22/22 and ...a5! should not be overlooked 29.h4 gxh4]
Loses the game. **29.a4?** -2.80/23
[29.Kg3∓ -0.63/24]
29...d5-+ Deflection **30.Nc5 Rxf6 31.Rxf6+** -6.63/24
[31.Rg2 -2.38/26]
31...Kxf6 Black is clearly winning. **32.c4**

(Diagram)

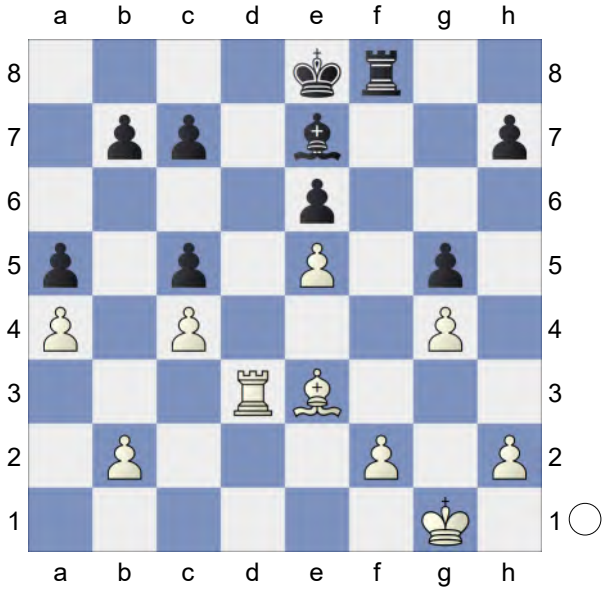


e4! Deflection **33.dxe4**
[33.Kg3 exd3]
33...dxc4 34.Kg2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.65/Black=0.07 (flawless) **34...c3 0-1**

15 **C67**
□ **Aronian,Levon** **2742**
■ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2736**
Niemann-Aronian m blitz (17) 21.06.25
[Kitty Kat]

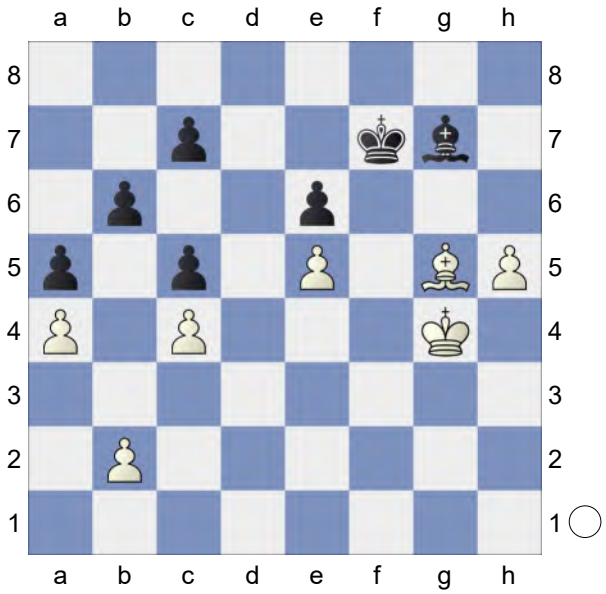
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Be7 10.a4N** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
[10.Ne2 Nh4 11.Rd1+ Ke8 12.Nxh4 Bxh4 13.Be3 Be7 14.Rd2 Bf5 15.Rad1 Rd8 16.c3 Rxd2 17.Rxd2 a6 18.b3 h5 19.Nd4 Bd7 20.Nf3 Bg4 21.Ng5 Rh6 22.Ne4 Rg6 23.Nc5 Bf3 24.g3 Bxc5 ½-½ Stornelli,V (1859)-Molenbroek,H (2078) Villahermosa Tabasco-ch 2023 (2)]
[10.Rd1+ Ke8 11.g4 *(11.b3 Be6 12.Bb2 h5 13.Ne2 Rh6 14.Bc1 Rh8 15.Nf4 Rd8 16.Rxd8+ Bxd8 17.c4 c5 18.Ba3 b6 19.Rd1 g5 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Bc1 Rg8 22.Nd2 Nd4 23.Bb2 Kf7 24.Ne4 Be7 25.f3 Rd8* 1-0 Kuksov,V (2170)-6.cb5 ♗b5 7.♗g2 (1649) 8th Gibtelecom Masters 2010 (1) *)* 11...Nh4 12.Nxh4 Bxh4 13.f3 h5 14.h3 hxg4 15.hxg4 f6 16.exf6 gxf6 17.Bf4 f5 18.g5 Rh5 19.Ne2 Be6 20.Kg2 Kf7 21.Ng3 Bxg3 22.Kxg3 Rah8 23.Kf2 Rh4 24.Bxc7 f4 ½-½ Shankland,S (2714)-So,W (2778) ch-USA 2021 Saint Louis USA (8.3)]
[10.h3 Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4 12.f4 g6 13.Be3 h5 14.Ne2 Ke8 15.Rad1 Bd7 16.a4 a6 17.a5 Rd8 18.Bc5 Be6 19.b3 Rd5 20.Rxd5 cxd5 21.Nd4 Kd7 22.Rd1 Rc8 23.c4 dxc4 24.bxc4 Re8 ½-½ Schoenherr,H-Kacheishvili,G Malmoe (m/4) 35/668 1983]
10...a5 11.Bf4N
[11.b3 h5 12.Ne4 Ke8 13.Bb2 Be6 14.Neg5 Bd7 0.42/21 *(14...Bc8=* -0.01/22 *)* 15.Rfe1 0.01/21 *(15.e6±* 0.42/21 *Bxe6 16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.Rfe1)* 15...Rh6= 16.Ne4 Be6 17.Nfg5 Bxg5 18.Nxg5 0-1 Chen,Y (2180)-Xiang,Z (2435) CHN-chB Qiziwan 2023 (6)]
11...Nh4 12.Rad1+ White has an edge. **12...Ke8 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Ne2 Be7 15.Nd4** White is more active. **15...Be6 16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.Rd3 Rd8** 1.26/24
[⌓17...Bc5 0.82/23]
18.Rfd1 0.70/23
[18.Rxd8+± 1.26/24 Kxd8 19.Rd1+ Kc8 20.Be3]
18...Rd5± 19.c4 Rxd3 20.Rxd3 Endgame KRB-KRB **20...Rf8 21.Be3**

g5 1.57/27
[⌓21...h5 0.71/25]
22.g4± This costs Black the game.
22...c5? 3.77/25
[22...b6± 1.35/23]



23.Kg2 1.88/29
[⌓23.Bd2 3.77/25 Rh3! is the strong threat. b6 24.Rh3]
23...h5? 5.84/26
[23...Rh8 1.88/29 is more resistant. 24.Bd2 b6]
24.gxh5+- White is clearly winning.
24...Rh8 25.Bd2 b6 26.Rg3
[Less strong is 26.Rh3 g4 27.Rg3 Rxh5±]
26...Rxh5 27.Rh3 Rxh3 28.Kxh3 KB-KB **28...Kf7 29.Kg4 Kg6 30.f3 Bd8 31.f4 gxf4 32.Bxf4 Be7 33.h4 Bf8 34.h5+ Kf7 35.Bg5 Bg7**

(Diagram)



Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.84 **36.Bf6!**
1-0

16 **C65**
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2787**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2837**
Norway Chess 13th (6) 01.06.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.h3** The modern move. Der moderne Zug. **7...a6 8.Ba4 h6**
[8...Ba7 9.Re1 Ne7 10.Nbd2 Ng6 11.d4 *(11.Nf1 c6 12.Ng3 d5 13.exd5 Nxd5 14.d4 exd4 15.Nxd4 Ndf4 16.Qf3 Bxd4 17.Bxf4 Nxf4 18.Qxf4 Bb6 19.Rad1 Qc7 20.Qxc7 Bxc7 21.Bb3 Bd8 22.Ne4 Be6 23.Bxe6 fxe6 24.Rd7 Rb8 25.Kf1 Rf7* 1-0 Bocharov,I (2571)-Belyakov,B (2447) Khanty-Mansiysk Governor Cup Rapid 18th 2022 (10))* 11...c5 12.Bc2 b5 13.Nf1 cxd4 14.cxd4 Bb7 15.Be3 Nxe4 16.dxe5 Bxe3 17.Rxe3

Ng5 18.N3h2 Nf4 19.Qg4 dxe5 20.Rxe5 Bxg2 21.Rxg5 Qxg5 22.Qxg5 Nxh3+ 23.Kxg2 ½-½ Kobalia,M (2679)-Lysyj,I (2629) (m/1) 112/182 2011]

9.Re1 b5 The position is equal. **10.Bc2 Bb6N**

[10...Re8 11.a4 b4 *(11...Rb8 12.Nbd2 b4 13.a5 Bd7 14.Nc4 Ba7 15.Bd2 bxc3 16.bxc3 Rb5 17.Ba4 Rb7 18.Nh4* #7 30. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1-7…h6*)* 12.d4 Ba7 13.d5 #4 30. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1-7...h6]

[10...d5 11.d4 dxe4 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.dxe5 #3 30. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7. Re1-7...h6]

11.Nbd2 Ne7 12.a4 Rb8N

[12...Bb7 13.d4 Ng6 14.Nf1 Re8 0.55/21 *(*Black should try *14...c5*= -0.01/23 *)* 15.Ng3± d5 16.exd5 -0.12/26 *(*Better is *16.axb5*± 0.46/25 *Nxe4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Nxe5)* 16...Qxd5 17.axb5 axb5 18.Rxa8 Bxa8 1-0 Schon,E (2002)-Yuen,J AUS-ch U18 Sydney 2008 (3)]

13.d4 Ng6 14.Nf1 c5 15.Ng3 cxd4 16.cxd4 bxa4 17.Bxa4 Bb7 18.d5 a5 19.Be3 Bc8 20.b3 Bxe3 21.Rxe3 Nf4 22.Bc6 -0.70/23

[⌓22.Rc1 -0.34/22]

22...Rb4 -0.21/22

[22...Bxh3∓ -0.70/23 23.gxh3 Nxh3+ 24.Kg2 Nf4+ *(24...Ng4 25.Re2*± *)* 25.Kf1 g6]

23.Qc2 -1.13/22

[23.Ne1= -0.21/22]

23...g6!∓ 24.Kh1 -1.34/21

[⌓24.Kh2 -0.92/20]

24...Ba6 25.Qa2 -2.17/24

[25.Kh2∓ -1.04/20]

25...Bd3-+ 26.Nd2 -3.02/25

[26.Kh2 -1.99/24]

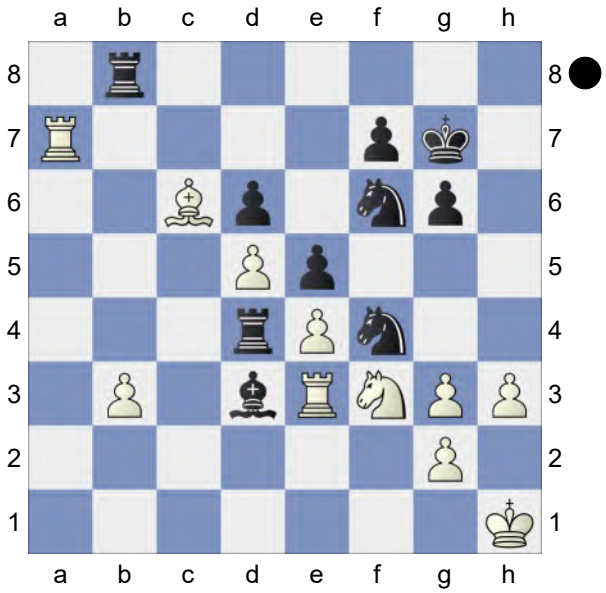
26...h5 27.Qxa5 Qxa5 28.Rxa5 h4 29.Ra4 Rfb8

[29...Rxa4 30.bxa4 Rb8 *(30...hxg3 31.fxg3 Bxe4 32.Nxe4*± *)* 31.Ngf1∓]

30.Ra2 Kg7 31.Ra7 Rd4

[31...hxg3? 32.fxg3 Nxh3 *(32...Nxe4 33.Nxe4 Rxe4 34.Rxe4*∓ *)* 33.gxh3 Bxe4+ 34.Kh2-+]

32.Nf3 hxg3 33.fxg3



Nxh3 34.gxh3

[34.Nxd4 exd4 35.Re1 *(35.Rxd3? Nf2+ 36.Kg1 Nxd3-+)* 35...Bxe4]

34...Bxe4

[34...Rxe4? 35.Rxd3 Nh7 36.Rd2+-]

35.Kh2 Rd1

[35...Nxd5? 36.Rxe4 Rxe4 37.Bxd5 Re2+ 38.Kg1+-]

36.g4 Bxd5

[36...Nxd5 37.Rxe4 Rxb3 38.Bxd5 Rxd5 39.Kg2=]

37.Bxd5 Nxd5

[37...Rxd5 38.Ng5 Rd2+ 39.Kg3±]

38.Re2 Nf4

[38...Rxb3? 39.Rf2-+]

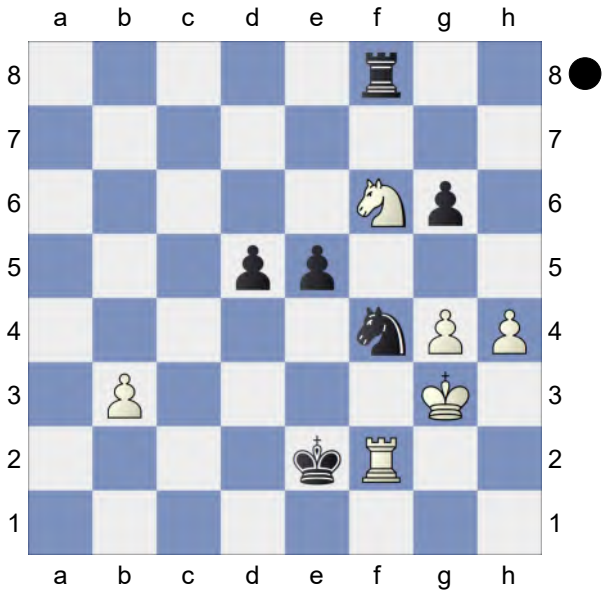
39.Rc2 Kf6

[39...Rxb3 40.Ng5 Kg8 *(40...Kf6 41.h4=)* 41.h4=]

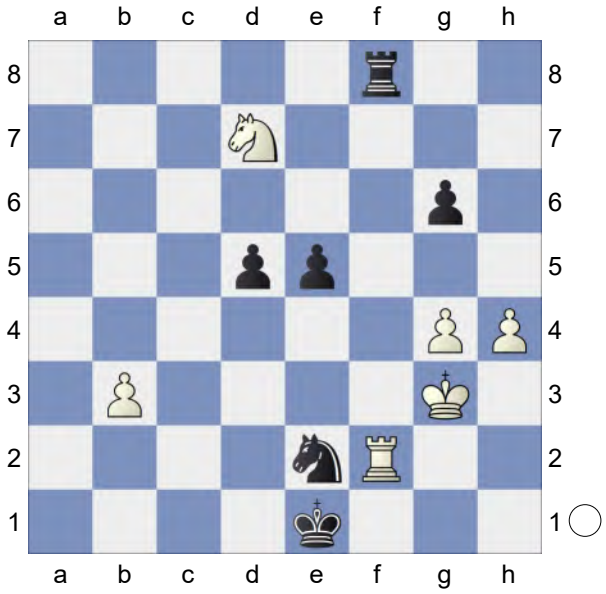
40.h4 Ke6

[40...Rxb3 41.Ng5 e4 42.Rxf7+

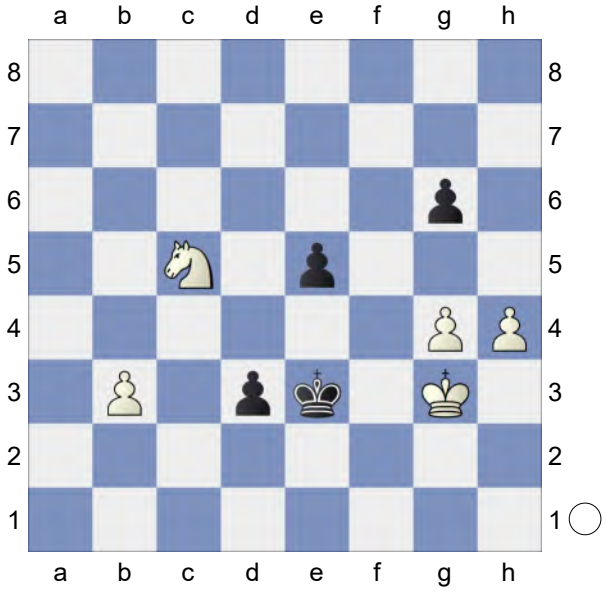
(42.Nxf7? Rh3#; 42.Rf2 Ke5∓)
42...Ke5 43.Re7+ Kd5 44.Rxe4=
(44.Nxe4? Rh3#)]
41.Ng5+ Kd5 42.Ra5+ Kd4 43.Ra4+ Kd3 44.Rf2 f6? -0.91/23
[44...Rxb3 45.Rf3+ Kc2 46.Ra2+ Kb1 47.Rxb3+∓]
[44...Rh8-+ -5.09/22 45.Rf3+ Kc2 46.Ra2+ Kb1]
45.Rf3+∓ Ke2 46.Ra2+? -3.12/31
[46.Re4+∓ -1.39/26 might work better. Kd2 47.Ra4 fxg5 48.Ra2+ Kc1 49.Rff2 Rxb3 50.Ra1+ Rb1 51.Raa2]
46...Rd2-+ 47.Rxd2+ Kxd2
Endgame KRN-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **48.Ne4+ Ke2 49.Kg3 d5 50.Nxf6 Rf8?** -0.83/26
[Weaker is 50...d4 51.Nd7 Re8 *(51...Rb5 52.Nxe5 Remove Defender Rxe5 53.Kxf4∓)* 52.Nxe5 Rxe5 53.Kxf4∓ *(53.Rxf4 d3-+)*]
[50...Rb4!-+ -3.08/21 and Black stays clearly on top. White must now prevent ...d4. 51.Nd7 Nd3]
51.Rf2+∓



Ke1! 52.Nd7 Ne2+? 9.78/24
[52...Re8∓ -1.05/24 53.Nxe5 Ne2+ 54.Rxe2+ Kxe2]



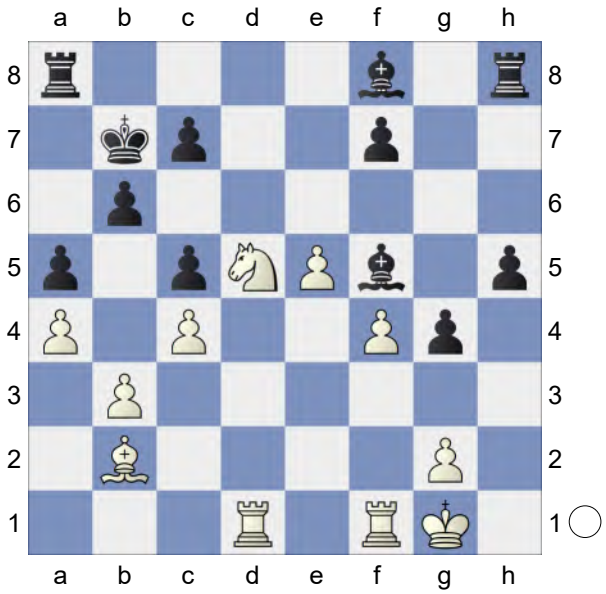
53.Rxe2+!+- Kxe2 54.Nxf8 KN-K3P
54...d4 55.Ne6
[55.Nxg6? too greedy. d3 56.Nxe5 d2-+]
55...d3 56.Nc5 Ke3



Wards off Ne4 **57.Na4! e4 58.h5 gxh5 59.gxh5** White mates. **59...Kd2 60.Nb2 e3 61.Nc4+ Ke2** Quite a comeback for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.57 **62.Kf4**
1-0

17 **C67**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2723**
■ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2837**
Chess.com Classic Winners blitz (2.2)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Inf 83/317 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 h6 10.Nc3** The main line 10. Nc3 scores better than 10.Rd1+. Die Hauptvariante 10.Sc3 punktet besser als 10.Td1+. **10...Bd7 11.b3 a5**
[11...Kc8 12.Bb2 c5 *(12...b6 13.Rad1 Ne7 14.Rd2 c5 15.Rfd1 Be6 16.Ne2 g5 17.h4 g4 18.Nh2 h5 19.Rd8+ Kb7 20.Rxa8 Kxa8 21.Rd8+ Kb7 22.Nf4 Ng6 23.g3 c4 24.bxc4 Nxf4 25.gxf4 g3 26.Nf1 gxf2+ 27.Kh2* 0-1 Anand,V (2794)-Kramnik,V (2802) Mainz (m-rapid) 2001 (3) *)* 13.Nd5 a5 14.a4 Ne7 15.Nf4 Ra6 16.Rfe1 Rg8 17.Nd2 0.05/23 *(17.e6!± 0.66/21 fxe6 18.Ne5)* 17...Ng6 18.Nd3 Bf5 19.Ne4 c4 20.bxc4 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2784)-Carlsen,M (2862) Chess.com Speed blitz 2020 (3.128)]
[11...c5 12.Bb2 Nd4 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Ne4 c5 15.c3 dxc3 16.Bxc3 a5 17.Rad1 Kc7 18.f4 a4 19.Nd6 Bxd6 20.exd6+ Kb6 21.b4 cxb4 22.Bxb4 Rhe8 23.Rf2 Rac8 24.Rd4 Ka6 25.a3 b5 26.Rd5 1-0 Jablecnik,G (2591)-8. ♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2611) 45: Lloyds Bank 1994 (6.4)]
12.Bb2 c5N 0.53/24 A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.
[12...Kc8 13.a4 b6 14.Rad1 Ne7 15.Rfe1 c5 16.Ne2 Ng6 Wards off Nf4 17.h4 White wants to play h5. Bg4 0.48/22 *(17...h5!= 0.01/23)* 18.Nh2± Bxe2 *(18...Bf5 19.h5 Ne7 20.Rd2 Rg8 21.Nf4 Be6 22.c4 Kb7 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Rd7 Nc6 25.Re4 Re8 26.Rg4 Kc8 27.Rd3 Ne7 28.Kf1 Nf5 29.Nf3 Rd8 30.Ke2 Be7 31.Rg6 Rxd3 32.Kxd3 Rd8+ 33.Ke2* 1-0 Negi,P (2620)-Milov,V (2652) FIDE World Cup 2009 (1.1)*)* 19.Rxe2 ½-½ Vachier Lagrave,M (2732)-Nakamura,H (2788) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Feb Early blitz 2024 (10)]
[12...Kc8= 0.15/24]
13.a4 Kc8 White has an edge. **14.Rad1 Be6** 0.43/24
[14...b6= 0.01/19 was preferable.]
15.Nd5± g5 16.c4 Ne7 17.Rfe1 b6 0.80/23
[17...Ng6= 0.14/23]
18.h4!± g4 19.Nh2 -0.01/21
[19.Nd2!± 0.77/23]
19...h5= 20.f4 Nf5 21.Nf1 Nxh4 22.Ng3 Kb7 23.Rf1!
[23.Nf6 Be7∓]
23...Nf5 24.Nxf5 Bxf5



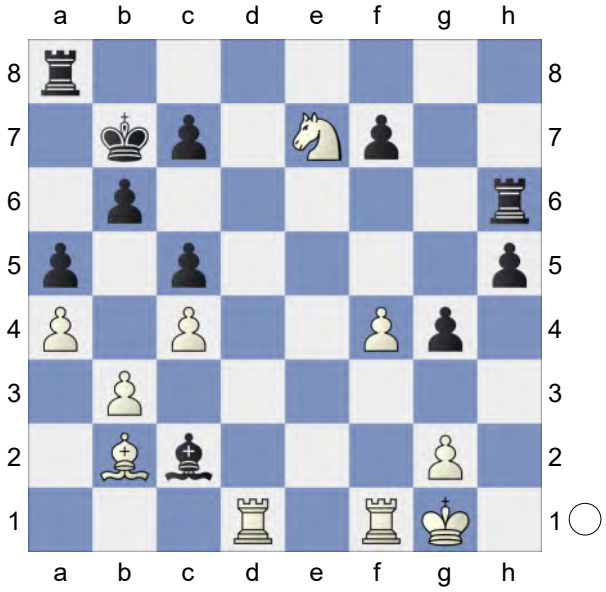
25.e6 -0.30/24
[25.Ne3!± 0.53/27 Be4 26.Rd7]
25...Rh6? 1.30/28

[Better is 25...fxe6!= -0.30/24 26.Nxc7 *(26.Bxh8 exd5 27.Rxd5 Bc2±)* 26...Kxc7 27.Bxh8 Bc2]

26.e7±

[26.exf7 Rh7 27.Ne3 Rxf7∓]

26...Bxe7 27.Nxe7 Bc2



28.Rc1 -0.01/22

[28.Be5!± 1.16/26]

28...Bxb3= 29.f5 Rd6 30.Be5 Rd3 31.Nd5 Re8 -0.01/23

[31...Rd8∓ -0.47/23]

32.Rfe1

[32.Bxc7 Rxd5 *(32...Bxa4 33.Bf4±)* 33.cxd5 Kxc7∓]

32...Bxa4 This move loses the game for White. **33.Bf4?** -3.28/25

[Don't play 33.Nxc7 Rxe5 34.Rxe5 Kxc7 35.Re7+ Rd7∓]

[33.Bxc7 Rxd5 34.cxd5 Kxc7∓]

[33.Nf6!= -0.01/22 and White stays safe. Re7 34.Nxh5]

33...Rxe1+-+ 34.Rxe1 Hoping for Re7!.

34...Bb3 35.Bxc7? -8.59/23

[35.Re7 -3.32/23 Bxc4 36.Ne3]

35...Rxd5 Remove Defender

[35...Bxc4 36.Nxb6 Bb3 37.Re7∓]

36.cxd5 Kxc7 Endgame KR-KB

37.Re7+ Kd6 38.Rxf7 Bxd5

[Not 38...Kxd5 39.f6∓]

39.Ra7 Ke5 40.Ra6 Kxf5 41.Rxb6 a4 -3.06/22

[⌓41...Ke5 -7.55/27 42.Ra6 c4]

42.Rb5? -9.51/26

[42.Ra6 -3.06/22 c4 *(42...Bb3 43.Ra5∓)* 43.Rxa4]

42...a3 Black is clearly winning. **43.Rxc5 Ke4 44.Ra5 a2 45.Kf2 h4 46.Ke2 Kd4** Hoping for ...g3!. **47.Kd2 g3** -13.98/23

[⌓47...h3 -33.59/24 48.Ra4+ Ke5]

48.Ra4+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.91/Black=0.55 **48...Bc4**

0-1

18 **C65**

□ **Gukesh,D.** **2787**

■ **So,W.** **2751**

Superbet ROM Classic 2025 (7.4)

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Ba4 0-0 6.h3N**

[6.0-0 d6 7.c3 Ne7 *(7...Bb6 8.Nbd2 Ne7 9.Nc4 Ng6 10.h3 h6 11.Bc2 Be6 12.Nxb6 axb6 13.d4 b5 14.Be3 c6 15.Re1 Qc7 16.a3 Rad8 17.Qd2 Rfe8 18.Rad1 Qe7 19.Qc1 Nh5 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Rd1* 1-0 Carlsen,M (2835)-Andreikin,D (2719) World Rapid 2018 (14.1))

A) 8.Bc2 Ng6 9.d4 Bb6 10.Be3 *(10.h3 d5 11.exd5 exd4 12.cxd4 Nxd5 13.Nc3 Ndf4 14.Re1 Be6 15.Bxf4 Nxf4 16.Qd2 Qf6 17.h4 Nh3+ 18.Kh1 Rad8 19.Ne4 Qf4 20.Qxf4 Nxf4 21.g3 Ng6 22.h5 Bg4 23.Nh2 Bxh5 24.g4 Bxg4*

½-½ Roehrich,S (2728)-Heasman, R (2530) Katowice op 1992 (9)) 10...c6 11.Re1 Re8 12.h3 exd4 13.Bxd4 Nd7 14.a4 Nde5 15.Nbd2 Be6 16.b4 a5 17.Rb1 axb4 18.Bxb6 Qxb6 19.cxb4 Rad8 20.a5 Qa7 21.Qe2 c5 ½-½ Roehrich,S (2729)-Grube,J (2768) 2nd Misr Closed 2004 (5.2); **B)** 8.Bg5 Ng6 9.Nh4 h6 10.Nxg6 fxg6 11.Be3 Ng4 12.Bxc5 dxc5 Narayanan,S (2572)-Afanasiev,N (2508) Moscow 140/(130) 2019]

6...d5 7.exd5 Qxd5 8.Nc3 Qd6 9.0-0 Nd4 10.Re1 Nxf3+ 11.Qxf3 c6 12.Bb3 Bd7 0.75/22

[12...a5!= 0.20/21 keeps the balance.]

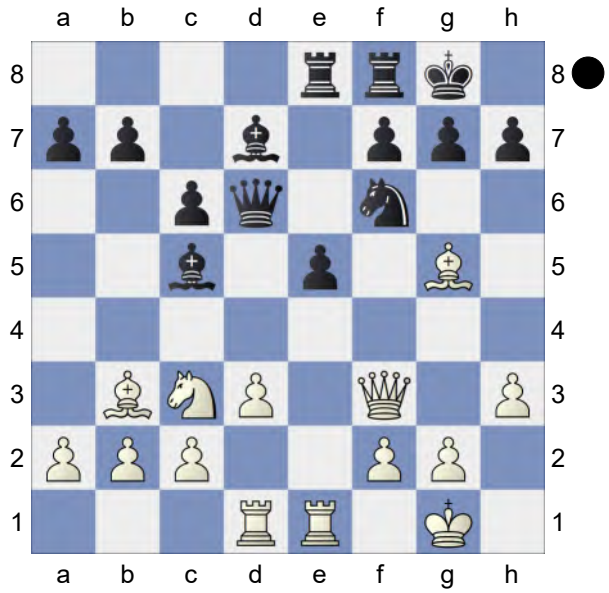
13.Bg5 0.29/21

[13.Na4± 0.75/22]

13...Rae8 0.74/23

[13...Bd4= 0.29/21]

14.Rad1±



Bc8 15.Ne2 0.09/20 White is more active.

[15.Be3± 0.61/21]

15...h6 16.Bh4 Bb6 17.Bg3 Nh7 18.Nc3 Kh8 0.69/25

[Better is 18...Bd4= 0.06/19]

19.Qh5 0.01/19

[19.Bxf7? Ng5 20.Qh5 Nxf7-+ *(20...Rxf7 21.h4∓)*]

[19.d4!± 0.69/25]

19...f5= 20.d4! Nf6 0.46/25

[20...Bxd4= 0.01/24 feels stronger. 21.Ne2 f4]

21.Qg6 -0.13/24

[Of course not 21.Bxe5 Qxe5 22.Rxe5 *(22.Qxe8 Qxe8 23.Rxe8 Rxe8-+)* 22...Nxh5∓]

[21.Qf3!± 0.46/25 Bxd4 22.Ne2]

21...f4!

[21...Bxd4? 22.Ne2 f4 *(22...c5? 23.c3+-)* 23.Bh4+- *(23.Bxf4? Bxf2+ 24.Kh1 Qc5-+)*]

22.Bh4

[22.dxe5 fxg3 23.Rxd6 *(23.exd6? gxf2+ 24.Kh2 fxe1Q-+)* 23...gxf2+ 24.Kf1 fxe1Q+ 25.Kxe1 Rxe5+ 26.Kd1 Bc5-+ *(26...Rg5? 27.Qd3-+)*]

22...exd4

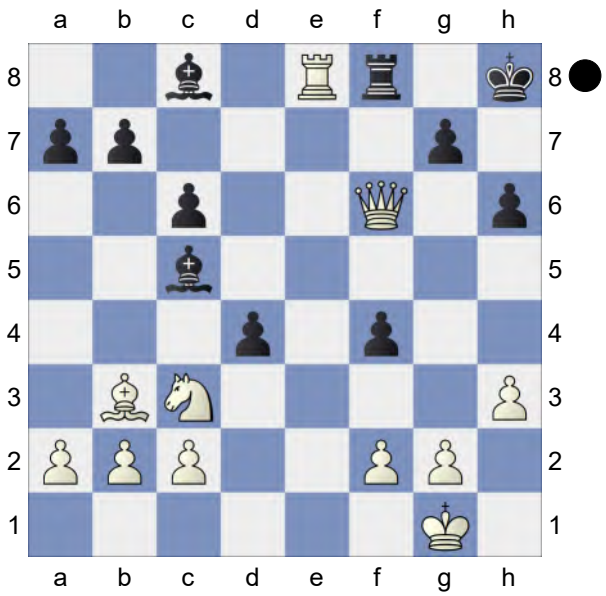
[22...Bxd4? 23.Ne2 c5 24.c3+-]

23.Bxf6 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1 Qxf6 25.Re8! Bc5!

[25...Qxg6? 26.Rxf8+ Kh7 27.Bg8+ *(27.Rxc8?* perishes. *Qf5-+)* 27...Kh8 28.Bf7+ *(28.Rxc8 Bd8∓)* 28...Kh7 29.Bxg6+ Kxg6 30.Rxc8+-]

26.Qxf6

(Diagram)

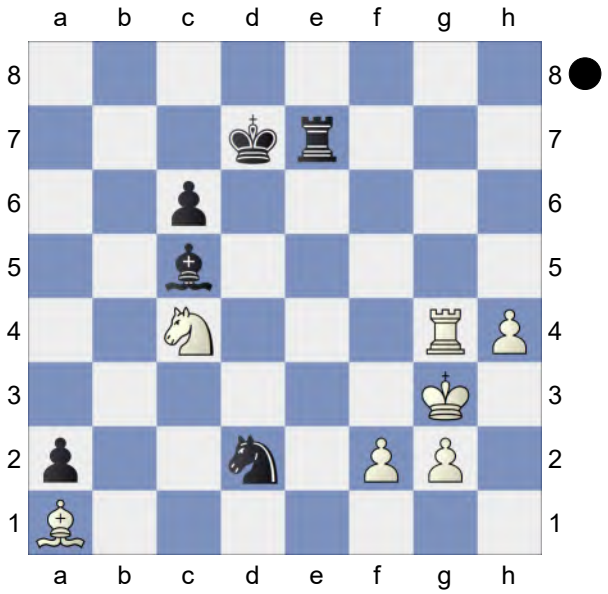


Remove Defender **26...gxf6 27.Rxf8+ Bxf8∓** Endgame KBB-KBN. Black is a pawn up. **28.Ne2 c5** Hoping for ...f3!. **29.Nxf4 Bd6 30.Be6!** The position is equal. **30...Bxe6 31.Nxe6=** KB-KN **31...Kg8 32.g4 b6! 33.Kg2** and Kf3 should not be overlooked **33...Kf7 34.Nd8+ Ke8 35.Ne6 Kf7 36.Nd8+ Ke8 37.Ne6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) / Black=0.12 (very precise) **37...Kf7!** Repels Ng7
½-½

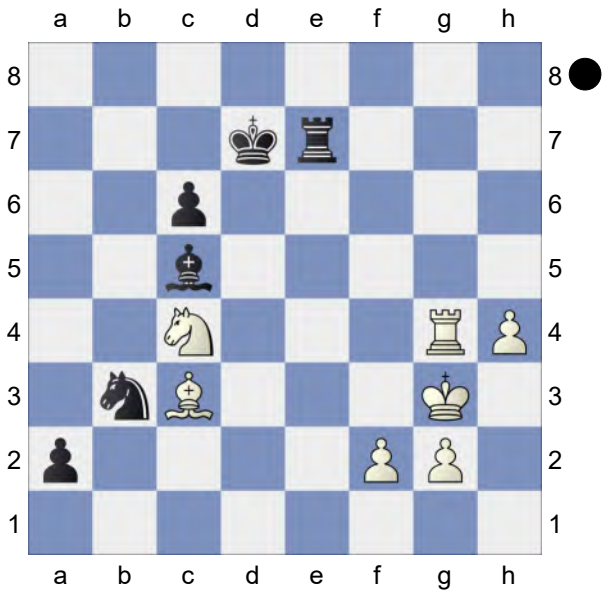
19 **C67**
□ **SacrificialSage** **2839**
■ **IntegralBot** **3020**
Blitz 28.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 1min+5sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.Rd1 Kc8 11.Ng5 Be8 12.b3 b6** The position is equal. **13.Bb2 Be7 14.Nge4 a5N**
[14...Kb7 15.Rd3 *(15.Ne2 c5 16.N4c3 Bc6 17.Nd5 Rhe8 18.Kf1 a5 19.a4 Rad8 20.c4 Bf8 21.Bc3 Nd4 22.Nxd4 Bxd5 23.cxd5 cxd4 24.Bxd4 Rxd5 25.Bc3 Red8 26.Rxd5 Rxd5 27.Re1 Rd3 28.Re3 Rxe3 29.fxe3 g6* 0-1 Agamaliev,D (2562)-Payet,A (2625) Amato mem corr 1982 (6) *30.Ke2 Kc6 31.Kd3 Kc5 32.Ke4 Kc6 33.g4 Be7 34.Be1 Bb4 35.Bxb4 axb4 36.g5 Kd7 37.Kd5 c5 38.h3 Ke7 39.h4 Kd7 40.a5 bxa5 41.Kxc5 a4 42.Kxb4 axb3 43.Kxb3 Ke6 44.Kc4 Kxe5* 0-1 Nijboer,F (2562)-Nielsen,P (2625) EU-ch 4th Istanbul 2003 (6)*)* 15...Rd8 *(15...c5 16.Nd5 Bc6 17.c4 Rhe8 18.Rf3 Nh6 19.h3 Rad8 20.Rd1 g6 21.g4 Bh4 22.Rfd3 Ng8 23.f4 h6 24.Nd2 h5 25.Nf3 Be7 26.Kf2 hxg4 27.hxg4 Rd7 28.Rh1 Bd8 29.Rh7 a5 30.Rd2* 1-0 Ernst,H (2671)-Sethuraman,S (2742) (ol) 55/5 Manila 1992 *)* 16.Rad1 Kc8 17.h3 h5 18.Bc1 Rxd3 19.Rxd3 Bd7 20.Ne2 Re8 21.Bb2 a5 22.g3 c5 23.Nf4 Bc6 24.Nd2 h4 25.c4 Rd8 26.g4 Nd4 27.Bxd4 cxd4 28.Ne2 Bb4 29.f4 0-1 Bakre,T (2477)-Aleksandrov,A (2645) Goodricke 13th op 2002 (9)]
[14...Bd7 15.Rd3 Nh4 16.Ne2 a5 17.a4 Bf5 18.N2g3 Be6 19.Nh5 Rg8 20.f3 Kb7 21.Rad1 Rad8 22.Rxd8 Bxd8 23.Kf2 Be7 24.g4 b5 25.Nf4 g5 26.Nxe6 fxe6 27.Bc3 Ra8 28.Bd4 Rf8 29.Rd3 1-0 Mercader Martinez,J (2404)-Peter,G (2342) corr WC42/pr10 2018]
15.Rd3 h5 16.a4 Kb7 17.Rad1 Rf8 18.Rf3 Nh4 19.Re3 Rc8 20.h3 Rg8 21.Ne2 c5 22.Nf4 c4 23.Nd5! Rd8
[23...Bd8 24.Ng3 g6 25.Rc3 cxb3 26.cxb3 Bc6]

24.bxc4 Ng6!
[24...Bxa4?! 25.Ra1 Rxd5 26.cxd5 Bxc2 27.d6±]
25.Rf3
[25.Ra1 simplifies Bc6 26.Nxe7 Nxe7 27.Ree1]
25...Bxa4 26.Rxf7 Be8! 27.Rf3 c6 28.Ne3 A dynamic duo of knights.
28...Rxd1+ 29.Nxd1 c5! is in the air
29...Bd7! 30.Ne3 Kc7
[30...Rf8? 31.Rg3 Be8 32.Nd6+ Bxd6 33.exd6+-]
31.Ng3 -0.35/22
[31.g4= 0.08/20 deserves consideration.]
31...h4↑ Black is more active. **32.Ngf5** and Nxe7 would now be decisive
32...Bc5 33.Nxg7 Rxg7 34.e6! Discovered Attack **34...Re7 35.exd7 Rxd7 36.Rf6 Nf8** Black has compensation. **37.Kf1 a4! 38.Ba1 a3!**
[38...Bxe3 39.Be5+ Kb7 40.fxe3+-]
39.Ke2 Bb4! 40.Nf1! Wards off Rd2+
40...Re7+ -0.33/18
[Black should try 40...a2∓ -0.75/22]
41.Ne3 Nd7 42.Rh6
[42.Rf4 Bd6 43.Rd4 *(43.Rxh4 Be5=)* 43...Nc5]
42...Nc5!
[42...Re4?! 43.Kf3 Nc5 44.Rh7+ Kc8 45.Rh8+ Kc7 46.Rh7+ Kc8 47.Rh8+ Kc7 48.Rh7+=]
43.Rxh4 Ne4! 44.Rg4 a2 45.c5 -1.41/21 **b5∓ 46.h4 Kd7 47.c4 bxc4**
[47...Nxc5 48.cxb5 Ne4 49.bxc6+ Kxc6 50.h5±]
[47...Bxc5 48.cxb5 cxb5 49.h5 Nxf2 50.Rg7 Rxg7 *(50...Bxe3 51.Rxe7+* Remove Defender *Kxe7 52.Kxe3+-)* 51.Bxg7=]
[47...Bc3 48.Rxe4 Bxa1 49.Rxe7+ Kxe7 50.Nc2 *(50.cxb5 Bd4=)*]
48.Kf3 Nd2+ 49.Kg3 Bxc5 50.Nxc4

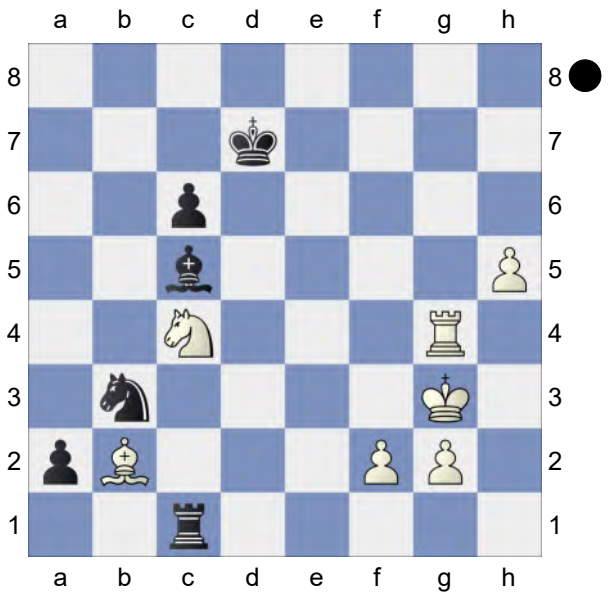


Nb3 White does not recover from this.
51.Bc3 -4.72/19
[51.Ne3∓ -1.49/20]



51...Re1!-+ Deflection, Promotion **52.h5**
[52.Bb2 Bd4]
52...Rc1
[52...a1B? 53.Bxe1 Bh8 54.Rg5+-]
53.Bb2

(Diagram)



Bd4! Wards off h6 **54.Bxd4**
[54.Rxd4+ Nxd4]
54...Nxd4 Endgame KRN-KRN. White is a pawn up. **55.Rg7+ Ke6 56.Ra7 a1Q**
[Not 56...a1B 57.Ra4∓]
57.Rxa1 Rxa1 58.Kf4 Nb5 59.Ke3 Rc1 60.Nb2 Re1+ 61.Kd2 Rg1 62.g3 Kd5 63.Ke3 c5 64.Na4 Re1+ 65.Kf3 Nd6 66.g4 c4 67.g5 -8.73/19
[⌓67.Nb6+ -5.19/20 Ke5 68.h6]
67...Kd4 68.g6 Nf5 69.Kf4 Ne7 and ...Ra1 would now be decisive **70.Kf3 Ra1 71.g7 Ng8**
[71...Rxa4? too greedy. 72.h6 Ra3+ 73.Kg2+-]
72.Nc3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
72...Kxc3
0-1

20 **C67**
□ **Vatsal_1123_bot** **2956**
■ **ArasanX** **3049**
Rapid 28.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

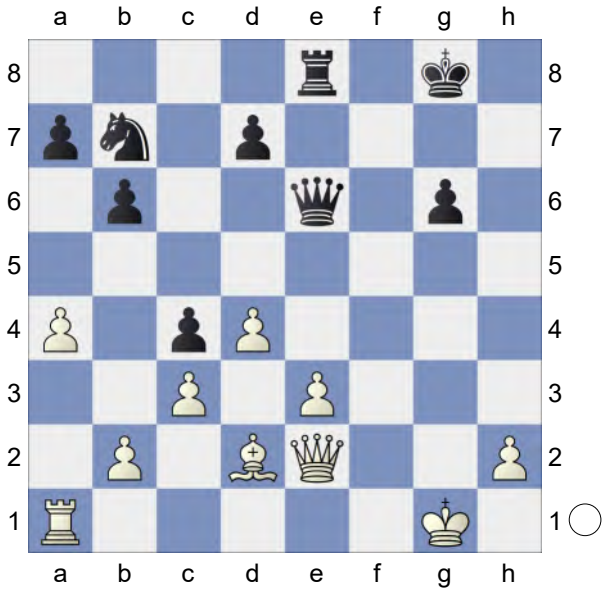
Blitz 10min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 %evp 0,76,20,13,13,13,19,19,19,14,48,19,20,5,4,3,16,5,27,20,1,-6,-8,-21,-21, -19,-24,-34,-20,-20,-23,-46,-23,-46,-22,-14,-22,-15,-18,-5,-5,-10,-6,-8,-2,5, 17,5,17,4,2,-15,-19,-29,-11,-3,5,-1,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Nd5 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 b6!** The position is equal.
13.g3
[13.Nxf6+ Qxf6 14.f3 Bb7 15.Qf2 Re8 16.d4 h6 17.Bd2 Nf5 18.c3 Nh4 19.Bd3 Ng6 20.Re1 Rxe1+ 21.Qxe1 Qe6 22.Qxe6 dxe6 23.c4 Kf8 24.Kf2 Ke8 25.Bc2 Ne7 26.g4 Ba6 27.Bd3 f6 ½-½ Aronian,L (2767)-Carlsen,M (2842) 6th Sinquefield Cup 2018 (3.1)]
[13.d3 Bb7 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Qb4 c5 16.Qf4 Qxf4 17.Bxf4 Nf5 18.Re1 f6 19.c3 Kf7 20.f3 g5 21.Bd2 h5 22.Kf2 h4 23.Be2 Bd5 24.a3 Rg8 25.Bd1 Be6 26.Bc2 Ne7 27.b4 Rc8 0-1 Paravyan,D (2586)-Lazavik,D (2541) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (7)]
13...Bb7 14.Bg2 c6 15.Ne3 h5N
[15...Qe7 16.d3 Nf5 17.c3 d5 18.Bd2 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qxe3 20.Bxe3 Ba6 21.d4 Re8 22.a4 h6 23.h4 Bc8 24.b4 Bf5 25.a5 b5 26.Re1 g5 27.hxg5 hxg5 28.f3 Bd8 29.Kf2 Bc7 30.Bd2 Reference Games-Adams,M Rxe1 31.Bxe1 f6

32.Bd2 Kg7 33.Bf1 a6 34.Be2 Kf7 35.Be3 Kg7 36.Bd2 Kf7 37.Be3 Kg7 38.Bd2 Kf7 ½-½ Adams,M (2740)-Aronian,L (2805) 41st Olympiad Open 2014 (6.12)]

16.c3 Qc7 17.Qd1 g6 18.a4 Re8 19.d3 Bg7 20.Bd2 Bh6 21.g4 Bxe3 22.fxe3

[22.Bxe3 c5±]

22...c5 23.Bxb7! Nxb7 24.gxh5 Qd6 25.Qe2 c4! 26.d4 Qe6 27.hxg6 fxg6



28.e4! Qxe4 29.Qxe4

[29.Qxc4+ d5 30.Qc7 Qg4+ 31.Qg3]

29...Rxe4= Endgame KRB-KRN

[29...Re6 seems wilder. 30.Qxb7 d6 31.Qb8+ Kf7]

30.Kf2 Inhibits Re2+. **30...Kf7 31.Bg5 d5 32.Kf3 Nd6 33.a5 b5 34.a6 b4 35.cxb4 Ke6**

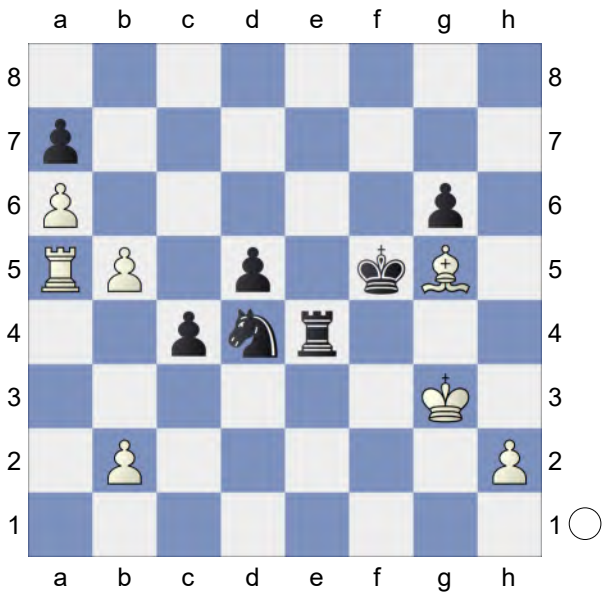
[35...Rxd4 36.Be3 Rd3 37.Ra3+-]

36.Ra5 Hoping for b5. **36...Nf5 37.b5! Nxd4+**

[37...Rxd4? 38.b6 axb6 39.Ra3+-]

38.Kg3 Kf5!

(Diagram)



39.b6! Discovered Attack **39...Kxg5** KRN-KR **40.b7 Nf5+ 41.Kf2 Re8**

[But not 41...Rf4+?! 42.Kg1 Ne3 *(42...Rg4+? 43.Kh1+-)* 43.Rxd5+ *(43.b8B? Rf1#)* 43...Kg4 44.Rd4 *(44.b8Q? Rf1#; 44.h3+? Kxh3-+)* 44...Rxd4 45.b8Q± *(45.b8R* leads to mate. *Rf4 46.h4 Kh3 47.Rh8 Rf1#)*]

42.Rxd5 Kf6 43.Rc5 Nd6 Wards off Rc8. White must now prevent ...Ne4+.

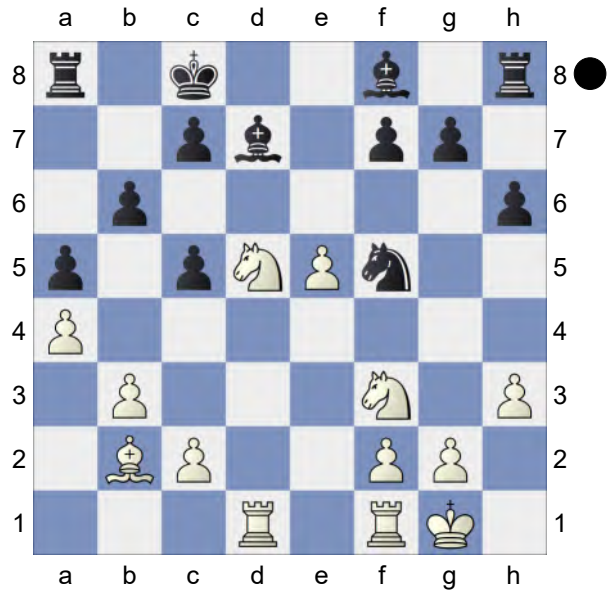
44.Rc7 g5 45.Kf3 Rf8 46.Kg4 Rb8 47.Rc5 Ke6 48.Rc7 Kf6 49.Rc6 Ke7 50.Rc7+

[50.Kxg5? is the wrong capture. Kd7 51.h4 Kxc6-+ *(51...Rg8+? 52.Kf6-+)*]

An even fight not without its subleties. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.00 (flawless) **50...Kf6 ½-½**

21 **C67**
□ **Endogenetic-Bot** **3049**
■ **ArasanX** **3077**
Rapid 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 h6 11.b3 Kc8 12.Bb2 b6 13.Rad1 c5 14.Nd5 a5! 15.a4**



c4! 0.28/21 **16.g4= Ne7 17.e6N**
The position is equal.
[17.Nf4 Nc6 18.e6 fxe6 19.Ng6 Rg8 20.Nfe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Be8 22.Nxc4 b5 23.axb5 Bxb5 24.Rd4 a4 25.Ra1 Rb8 26.Ba3 axb3 27.cxb3 Bxc4 28.bxc4 Ra8 29.Bb2 Rxa1+ 30.Bxa1 Bd6 31.Re4 ½-½ Svidler,P (2754)-Ponomariov,R (2739) Moscow Tal Memorial 4th 2009 (5)]
17...Bxe6 18.Nf4 Excellent horsemanship.
[18.bxc4 Nxd5 19.cxd5 Bd7]
18...Bd7 19.Ne5
[Of course not 19.bxc4 Bxa4 20.c5 bxc5∓ *(20...Bxc2 21.Rc1∓)*]
19...Be8 20.Nxc4
[20.bxc4 Nc6 *(20...Bxa4 21.Nxf7 Rg8 22.Rfe1±; 20...f6 21.Ne6∓)* 21.Rfe1 Kb7∓ *(21...Nxe5 22.Bxe5 Bxa4 23.Nd5∓)*]
20...Kb7 21.Rfe1 Ng6 22.Nxg6 fxg6 23.f4 g5 24.f5! h5 25.Ne5 Bb4 26.Re4 hxg4 27.hxg4 Bd6 28.Rd3 Rh7 29.Rc4 Rb8 30.Re4 Ra8 31.Bc3 Bc6 32.Nxc6 Kxc6 33.Rc4+ Kb7 34.Bd2 Rah8 35.Bxg5 Rh1+ 36.Kg2 R8h2+ 37.Kf3 Rf1+ 38.Ke4 Rh8! Hoping for ...Re8+. **39.Re3** aiming for Kd5. **39...Bc5 40.Re2 Re8+ 41.Kd3 Rd1+ 42.Rd2 Rde1** (→ ...R8e3+!) **43.Rg2 Rd1+! 44.Rd2 Rde1 45.Rh2** Repels R8e3+ **45...Rd1+** Not much happened in this game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) / Black=0.02 (flawless) **46.Rd2**
½-½

22 **C67**
□ **Kyreds_pet** **3073**
■ **IntegralBot** **3007**
Blitz 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.h3 Be6 11.g4**
[11.Rd1 Bc5 12.g4 Ne7 13.Ng5 Bd5 14.Nge4 Bb6 15.Kg2 Rd8 16.Bf4 Ng6 17.Bg3 h5 18.f4 hxg4 19.hxg4 Ke7 20.Rh1 Bd4 21.Nxd5+ cxd5 22.Nc3 Bxc3 23.bxc3 Kd7 24.f5 Ne7 25.Rae1 Rde8 ½-½ Anand,V (2803)-Carlsen,M

(2850) London Classic 7th 2015 (3)]

11...Ne7 12.Nd4! Bc8

[12...Bd7 13.f4 Nd5 14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.f5 c5 16.Nf3 d4 17.Bf4 Be7 18.Rae1 h5 19.Kf2 a5 20.Kg3 Bb5 21.Rf2 hxg4 22.hxg4 Bc4 23.f6 Bf8 24.Ng5 Kd7 25.c3 gxf6 26.exf6 Bd5 27.cxd4 1-0 Seelig,J (2309)-Calio,M (2343) corr S-Open/6-sf12 2017]

13.Kg2N White is slightly better.

[13.Re1 h5 14.e6 Bxe6 15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.Rxe6 hxg4 17.hxg4 Kd7 18.Re5 Ng6 Kosteniuk,A (2516)-Lazarne Vajda,S (2375) 107/(93) Novi Sad 2009]

13...Nd5 14.Bd2 h5 15.f3 Bc5 16.Nce2 a5 17.Rad1 a4 18.Rfe1 a3 0.99/22

[18...Bd7± 0.50/19]

19.b3± Nb4 20.Nc1 A mistake that costs the game. **20...Nxa2?** 2.29/21

[20...Bxd4± 0.50/22 21.Bxb4 Bb2]

21.Nxa2+- Black must now prevent Bc3.

21...Bxd4 22.Bg5! c5 23.c3 Be6

[But not 23...hxg4 24.hxg4 *(24.cxd4 gxf3+ 25.Kf2 Rxh3∓)* 24...Be6 25.cxd4±]

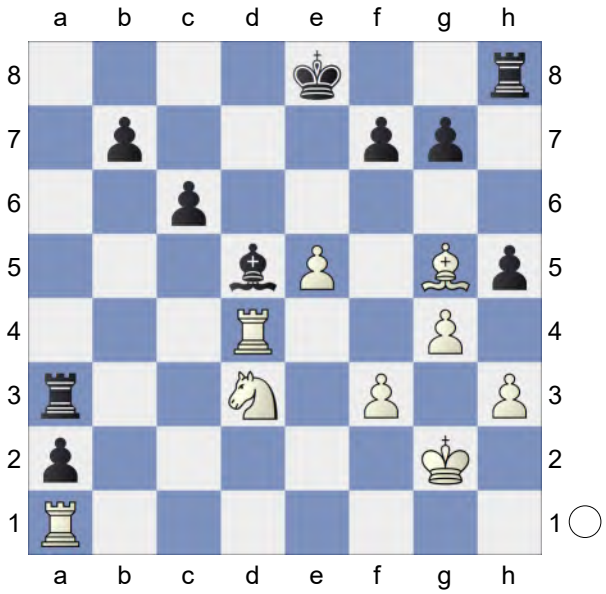
24.cxd4 Bxb3 25.Rd2 cxd4 26.Nc1 Bd5 and ...c5 would now be decisive

27.Rxd4 a2 28.Nd3 c6

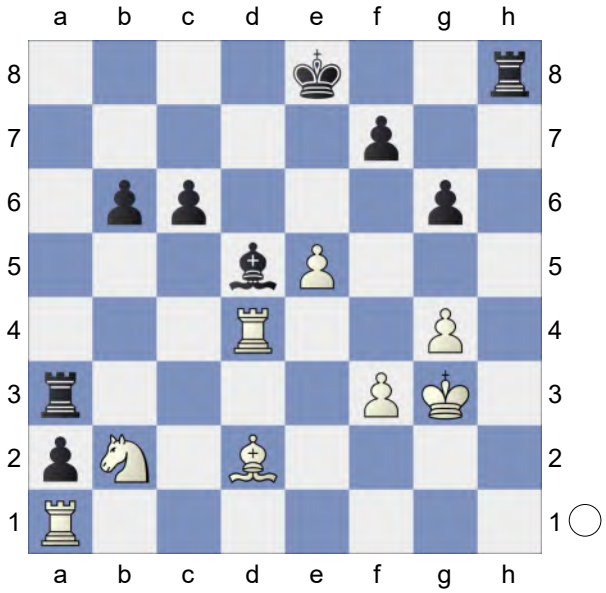
[28...a1B? loses. 29.Rxd5 Bc3 30.Rc1+-]

29.Ra1 Ra3

(Diagram)



30.Bd2! hxg4 31.hxg4 b6 32.Kg3 g6 33.Bb4 Ra4 34.Nb2 Ra6 35.Bd2 Ra3

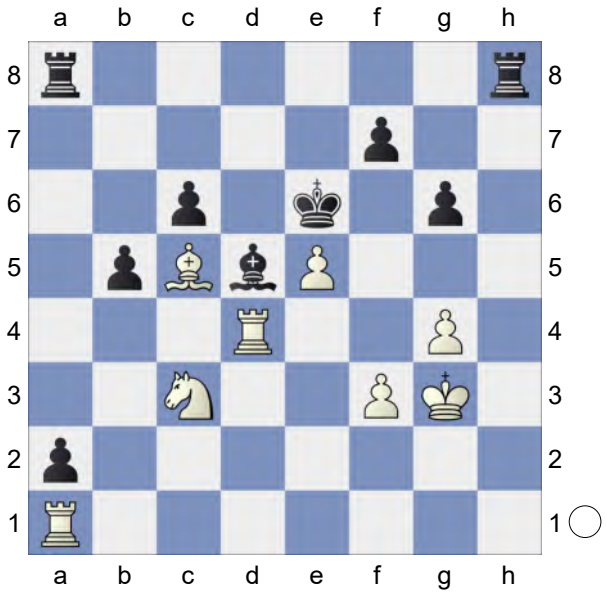


36.Nd3! b5 37.Bb4 Ra4 38.Nc5 Ra7 5.65/23

[⌓38...Ra8 3.95/23 39.Ne4 Kd7 40.Nf6+ Ke6]

39.Ne4 Kd7 40.Nc3 Ke6 41.Bc5 Raa8

(Diagram)

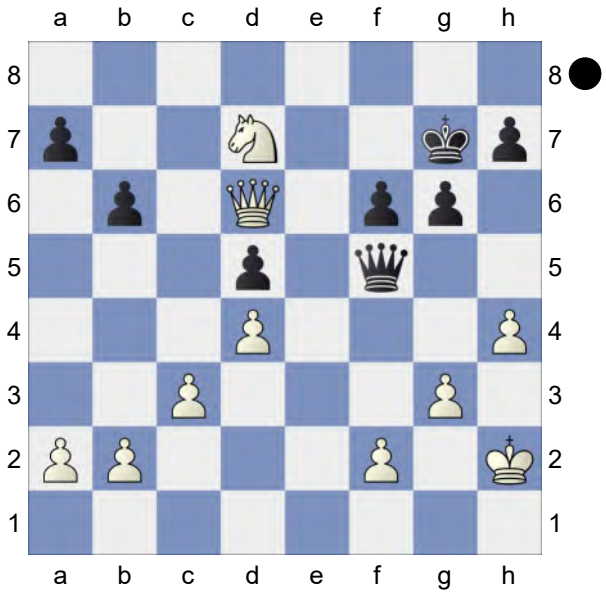


42.Rxa2! Rxa2 43.Nxa2 f6 44.Nb4 fxe5 45.Rd1 Re8 46.Re1 Kf7 47.Ra1 g5 48.Ra7+ Kg6 49.Rd7 e4 50.Nxd5 cxd5 51.Rxd5 exf3 52.Kxf3 Endgame KRB-KR **52...Rb8 53.Rd6+ Kh7 54.Ke4 b4 55.Rb6 Rxb6 56.Bxb6** KB-KPP **56...b3 57.Bd4 Kg6 58.Bb2 Kf7 59.Kf5 Ke7 60.Kxg5** KB-KP **60...Kd6 61.Kf5 Kc5 62.g5 Kb4 63.g6 Kc4 64.g7 Kd3 65.g8Q Kc2 66.Qg2+ Kd3 67.Ke5 Kc4 68.Qd5+ Kb4 69.Qc6 Ka5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) / Black=0.50 **70.Bc3#**
1-0

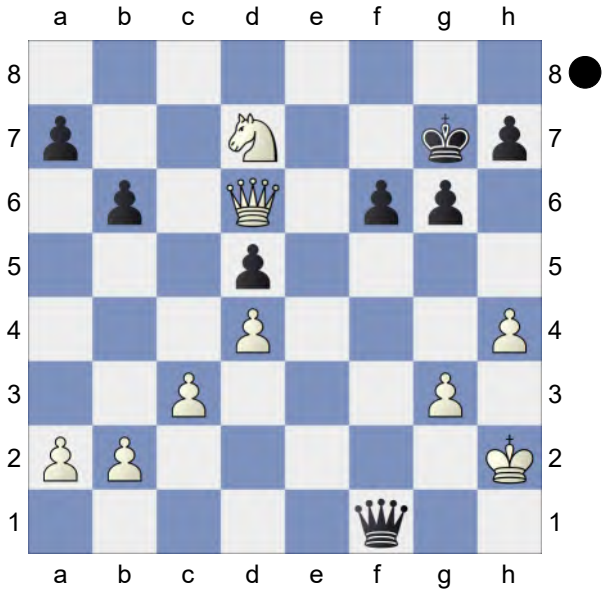
23 **C67**
□ **admonitor** **2892**
■ **tomlesspit** **3147**
Rapid 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+10sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Bf4 d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Nf3 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Qd2N**
[18.Qe2 c6 19.Re1 Ng7
A) 20.Be5 Ne6 21.Bxf6 *(21.Qe3 Qe7 22.Qh6 Re8 23.Bxf6 Qxf6 24.Ng5 Qg7 25.Qh3 Re7 26.Qg3 Qf6 27.Nxe6 Rxe6 28.Rxe6 Qxe6 29.h3 Kg7 30.Kh2 Qe2 31.b4 Qxa2 32.Qe5+ Kg8 33.Qe8+* ½-½ Guseinov,G (2634)-Anand,V (2803) Berlin (blitz) 126/(106) 2015 *)* 21...Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5 Ng7 25.Qxe8+ Nxe8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxe8 Kxe8 29.f4 f5 30.Kf2 b5 31.b4 Kf7 32.h3 h6 33.h4 h5 Carlsen,M (2870)-Anand,V (2775) (m/8) 119/(106) 2013;
B) 20.Ne5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 f6 22.Qe7 Qxe7 23.Rxe7 Re8 24.Rxe8+ Nxe8 Marosi,G (2713)-Hantel,T (2812) Koshnitsky mem corr 2002]
18...Ng7 19.Re1 Qd7 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 The position is equal. **21...Qd6 22.Qd3 c6** Against Qb5 **23.Qf3 f6 24.Nd3 Re8 25.Rxe8+ Nxe8=** Endgame KQN-KQN **26.Qg4 Qe7 27.Qc8 Kg7 28.h4 Nd6 29.Qb8 Nf7 30.g3 Qe4 31.Nc5 Qe1+ 32.Kg2 b6 33.Nd7 Qe7** Wards off Qf8+ **34.Qc8 Nd6 35.Qxc6 Qe4+ 36.Kf1 Qb1+ 37.Kg2** Active counter play! **37...Qe4+ 38.Kh2 Qf5 39.Qxd6**

(Diagram)



Qxf2+ 40.Kh3 Qf1+ 41.Kh2 Qf2+ 42.Kh3 Qf1+ 43.Kh2



An interesting draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.00 (flawless) **43...Qf2+**
½-½

24 **C67**
□ **BraveBot** **2895**
■ **ArasanX** **2998**
Blitz 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Seirawan,Yasser: 'While both players have much to lament, each receiving a sympathetic ear, let's face it: The arbiters have been brilliant. They have been out of sight and nary a word about them has been spoken. Out of the spotlight they have treble checked that bane of all chess players - the clock. The battery is functioning (good), the time control has been set to the right one (very good), the board and pieces have been set up correctly (most excellent). And so it all comes down to this: After eleven hard fought games the twelfth and final game would be played for all the marbles. I wanted to describe the situation as high drama. But my 'Spidey sense' began to tingle as I considered the word. Blessed with a heightened sense of caution I decided to look up the current definition of the word. You see the English language changes. Nearly every day in fact. Just like the FIDE rules committee that loves to change the rules of chess, so to do the committees that define words in the English language. It can get pretty confusing. To assuage my internal warnings I double-checked and learned something new while bringing myself up-to-date: drama: Top definition: "Something women and especially teenage girls thrive on. Consisting of any number of situations that have an easy solution, which would bring a fairly good outcome, but these girls choose

another, shitty, bad way to deal with it, again consisting of backstabbing, blackmailing/gossiping/betraying their friends, or the all-too-common, "I want to break up with him but I still love him!" It drives men and what I like to call "normal" girls nuts." Urban Dictionary. Hmm. Right. Just as expected a surprising change. Oh boy, I'm already in trouble and this is before annotating move one. Somehow, I can't quite put my finger on it but the (for me) new definition just feels a tiny bit to be politically incorrect. I confess I'm not the most astute in such matters. Therefore, let us put high drama aside for a moment and instead set up the situation from a different point of view... Many fans and even non-fans have asked me the question, "What makes one grandmaster stronger than another?" A fair question. Once when describing himself against his colleagues World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik saw himself, "As first amongst equals." It seems the top grandmasters know all the various chess skills and instead to find an answer to such a question we should consider the intangibles: Confidence; ambition; determination; good health; a supportive team; good food; a strong stomach; a working internet connection; staying regular and other key factors. The twelfth game would require a supreme effort by both players featuring nerves of steel coupled with boundless energy. They would before the gong imagine a long, hard fought game where conquering their nerves and remaining calm at those crucial moments is vital. They would review their preparation to the best of their abilities while hoping to out-calculate their opponent in the heat of battle. Doing all the things that grandmasters do so well. But there is another intangible to consider as well: At such a moment are you capable of getting a good night's sleep? Don't laugh. It is an important question. Imagine yourself in the role of Challenger Sergey Karjakin. You are to have a career defining moment. An opportunity to become World Chess Champion. A dream come true. With so many thoughts and emotions racing through your mind, will you be able to recharge your battery for the biggest contest of your life? But which player is carrying the bigger pressure? Same questions for Magnus Carlsen, the World Champion. Experts, pollsters and fans had all been unanimous predicting an easy match win. They were stone-cold wrong. Lucky to be at a level score, what risks should Magnus take to try to clinch the match? To go all in as White in the final game? As did Veselin Topalov with White against Viswanathan Anand in 2010? A decision which cost him the match... So many questions. So many worries and all you really want is to rest and recharge your battery. To sleep peacefully with pleasant dreams of victory. Perhaps such an ability, that one, to cast aside your concerns and get a good night sleep, is what makes one grandmaster stronger than another? Before the battle commenced, I wondered, would we see a real drama? Wait, now I'm certain that's not the word I want to use. In this preamble I've got it all wrong entangling myself in knots. I think National Basketball Association legend Michael Jordan said it best at such moments, "Go out and just enjoy the game. Don't think about the

consequences. If you do, you'll freeze."' Seirawan,Yasser: 'While both players have much to lament, each receiving a sympathetic ear, let's face it: The arbiters have been brilliant. They have been out of sight and nary a word about them has been spoken. Out of the spotlight they have treble checked that bane of all chess players - the clock. The battery is functioning (good), the time control has been set to the right one (very good), the board and pieces have been set up correctly (most excellent). And so it all comes down to this: After eleven hard fought games the twelfth and final game would be played for all the marbles. I wanted to describe the situation as high drama. But my 'Spidey sense' began to tingle as I considered the word. Blessed with a heightened sense of caution I decided to look up the current definition of the word. You see the English language changes. Nearly every day in fact. Just like the FIDE rules committee that loves to change the rules of chess, so to do the committees that define words in the English language. It can get pretty confusing. To assuage my internal warnings I double-checked and learned something new while bringing myself up-to-date: drama: Top definition: "Something women and especially teenage girls thrive on. Consisting of any number of situations that have an easy solution, which would bring a fairly good outcome, but these girls choose another, shitty, bad way to deal with it, again consisting of backstabbing, blackmailing/gossiping/betraying their friends, or the all-too-common, "I want to break up with him but I still love him!" It drives men and what I like to call "normal" girls nuts." Urban Dictionary. Hmm. Right. Just as expected a surprising change. Oh boy, I'm already in trouble and this is before annotating move one. Somehow, I can't quite put my finger on it but the (for me) new definition just feels a tiny bit to be politically incorrect. I confess I'm not the most astute in such matters. Therefore, let us put high drama aside for a moment and instead set up the situation from a different point of view... Many fans and even non-fans have asked me the question, "What makes one grandmaster stronger than another?" A fair question. Once when describing himself against his colleagues World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik saw himself, "As first amongst equals." It seems the top grandmasters know all the various chess skills and instead to find an answer to such a question we should consider the intangibles: Confidence; ambition; determination; good health; a supportive team; good food; a strong stomach; a working internet connection; staying regular and other key factors. The twelfth game would require a supreme effort by both players featuring nerves of steel coupled with boundless energy. They would before the gong imagine a long, hard fought game where conquering their nerves and remaining calm at those crucial moments is vital. They would review their preparation to the best of their abilities while hoping to out-calculate their opponent in the heat of battle. Doing all the things that grandmasters do so well. But there is another intangible to consider as well: At such a moment are you capable of getting a good night's sleep? Don't laugh. It is an important question. Imagine

yourself in the role of Challenger Sergey Karjakin. You are to have a career defining moment. An opportunity to become World Chess Champion. A dream come true. With so many thoughts and emotions racing through your mind, will you be able to recharge your battery for the biggest contest of your life? But which player is carrying the bigger pressure? Same questions for Magnus Carlsen, the World Champion. Experts, pollsters and fans had all been unanimous predicting an easy match win. They were stone-cold wrong. Lucky to be at a level score, what risks should Magnus take to try to clinch the match? To go all in as White in the final game? As did Veselin Topalov with White against Viswanathan Anand in 2010? A decision which cost him the match... So many questions. So many worries and all you really want is to rest and recharge your battery. To sleep peacefully with pleasant dreams of victory. Perhaps such an ability, that one, to cast aside your concerns and get a good night sleep, is what makes one grandmaster stronger than another? Before the battle commenced, I wondered, would we see a real drama? Wait, now I'm certain that's not the word I want to use. In this preamble I've got it all wrong entangling myself in knots. I think National Basketball Association legend Michael Jordan said it best at such moments, "Go out and just enjoy the game. Don't think about the consequences. If you do, you'll freeze." '

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 The position is equal. **13.Qc3**

[13.c3 d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Na3 c6 16.Nc2 Ng7 17.Qd2 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Ne3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 Qe7 21.Qxe7 Bxe7 22.Re1 Bf8 23.Kf1 f6 24.g4 Kf7 25.h3 Re8 26.Rxe8 Kxe8 27.Ke2 Kd7 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2853)-Karjakin,S (2772) (m/12) 130/122 2016]

13...d5 14.a4N

[14.Nd2 Bf5 *(14...c6 15.Re1 g6 16.Nb3 Ng7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Nc5 Bxe5 19.Rxe5 Qd6 20.Nxe6 Bxe6 21.h4 Re8 22.g3 f6 23.Re3 Kf7 24.Qa5 a6 25.Bd3 Re7 26.Qd2 h5 27.Qe1 Qd7 28.a4 Re8 29.a5* 1-0 Predein,V (2584)-Jimenez G,G (2661) Wijk 1996 (6.2)*)* 15.Re1 c6 16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Na5 Qe7 19.b4 Be4 20.Nb3 Rd8 21.a3 Bxe5 22.dxe5 d4 23.Qd2 Bd5 24.Nc1 c5 25.f4 g6 26.Ne2 b6 27.f5 gxf5 28.Ng3 f4 ½-½ Ojasuo,A (2643)-Ciocaltea,V (2691) World Championship Candidates 2018]

14...c6 15.Nd2 Qb6 16.Nb3 Black should prevent a5. **16...a5 17.h3 Nc7 18.Re1 Ne6 19.Be5 Bh4 20.Nc5 Qb4 21.Qe3** Black is now going downhill. **21...b6** 1.70/25

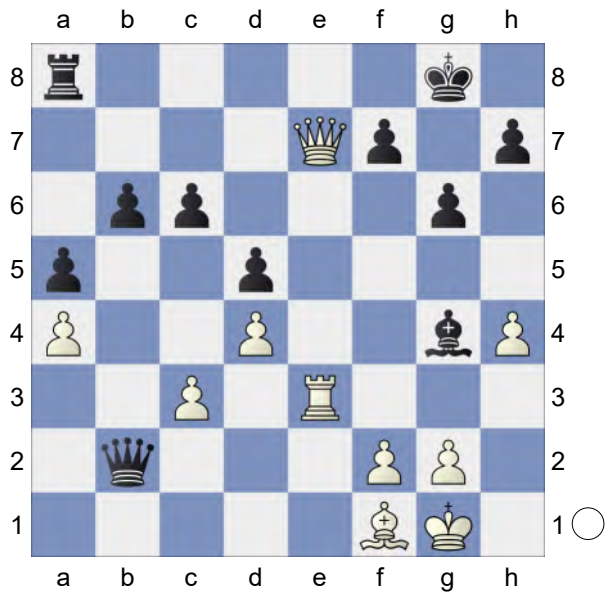
[Better is 21...h6± 0.56/20]

22.c3!+- Qxb2 23.Nxe6 Bxe6 24.Qf4! Be7

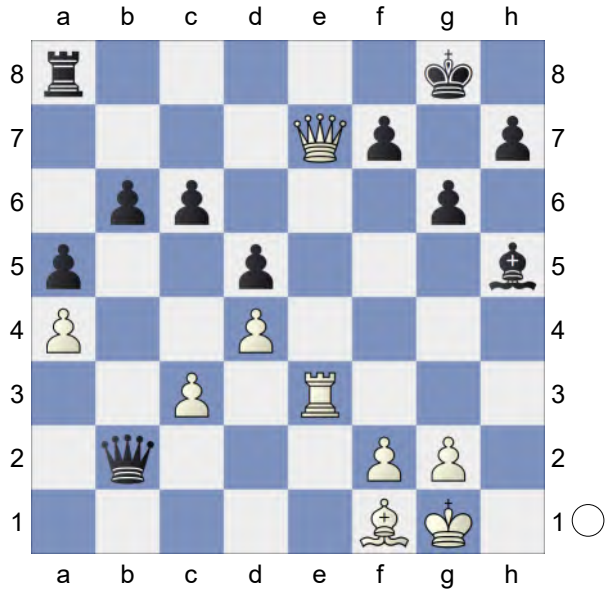
[24...Qxc3? 25.Re3 Qb4 *(25...g5? 26.Qf6+-)* 26.Qxh4+-]

25.Re3 g6 26.Qh6 Bf8 Repels Qg7+ **27.Qh4→** White attacks with force. **27...Bg7** Prevents Qf6 **28.Bxg7 Kxg7 29.Qe7** Prevents Qa3 **29...Kg8 30.h4! Bg4**

(Diagram)

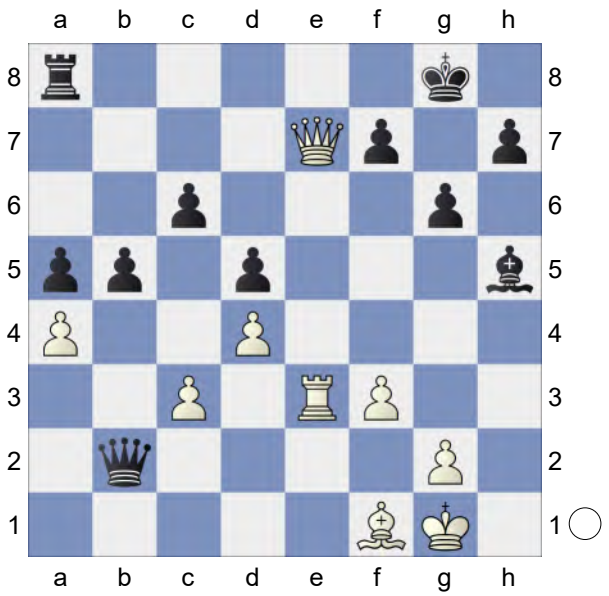


31.h5! Bxh5



32.f3 Prevents Bg4. **32...b5** 2.79/26
[⌓32...Rf8 1.79/24]

(Diagram)



33.axb5!
[33.g4 Bxg4 34.fxg4 bxa4=]
33...cxb5 34.g4 Bxg4 35.fxg4 Qc1 3.22/25
[⌓35...b4 2.29/21]
36.Kf2 Qc2+ 37.Kg3 Rc8 38.Rf3
[38.Bxb5 Rxc3 39.Qe8+ Kg7=]
38...Rf8 39.Bxb5 Qb1 40.Qe2 Bc6 is the strong threat. **40...Qg1+ 41.Qg2 Qc1 42.Qf2 h5 43.Qe3** White is clearly winning. **43...Qb2 44.Bc6 hxg4 45.Rf2**
[Less strong is 45.Kxg4 Qh2±]
45...Qb8+ 46.Qf4 Active counter play!
[46.Kxg4? is the wrong capture. Qc8+ 47.Kg5 Qxc6-+]
46...Qxf4+ 47.Kxf4 Endgame KRB-KR
[47.Rxf4 f5 48.Bxd5+ Kg7±]
47...Rc8 48.Bxd5 Rxc3 49.Kxg4 Rc7 50.Kf4 g5+ 51.Ke5 g4 52.Rf4 a4 53.Rxg4+ Kf8 54.Rg3 Ra7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) / Black=0.30 **55.Ra3**
1-0

25 **C67**
□ **duchessAl** **2850**
■ **Alexnajax_Fan** **2942**
Rapid 27.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 The young Hungarian talent (White) is a good theoretician. This was a recent rapid game where Gellert played precisely in the opening. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Bf1 Be7 7.Nxe5 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Ne8 10.Nd5 Bd6 11.Re2** White is slightly better.

[11.Re1 c6 12.Ne3 Bc7 13.Nf5 d5 14.Ne7+ Kh8 15.Nxc8 Rxc8 16.g3 *(16.d3 f5 17.g3 Nf6 18.Qf3 Ng4 19.d4 Qf6 20.c3 Qg6 21.Bh3 Qh5 22.Kg2 g5 23.Bd2 Rf7 24.Re6 Rcf8 25.Rae1 Ne3+ 26.Qxe3 g4 27.Rh6 gxh3+ 28.Kg1 Qg4 29.Qe2 Rg8 30.f3 Qg7* 1-0 Ojasuo,A (2679)-9.♘d2 a5/ 14. ♕c2 ♘gf6 15 (2657) Isthmia op-A 2nd 2012*)* 16...Nd6 17.Bh3 f5 18.d3 Qf6 19.c3 Rce8 20.Bd2 Nf7 21.Rxe8 Rxe8 22.Qf1 f4 23.Re1 Rf8 24.Qe2 h6 25.Kh1 Ng5 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2772)-Carlsen,M (2862) Sinquefield Cup 1st 2013 (5)]

11...c6 12.Ne3 f5N

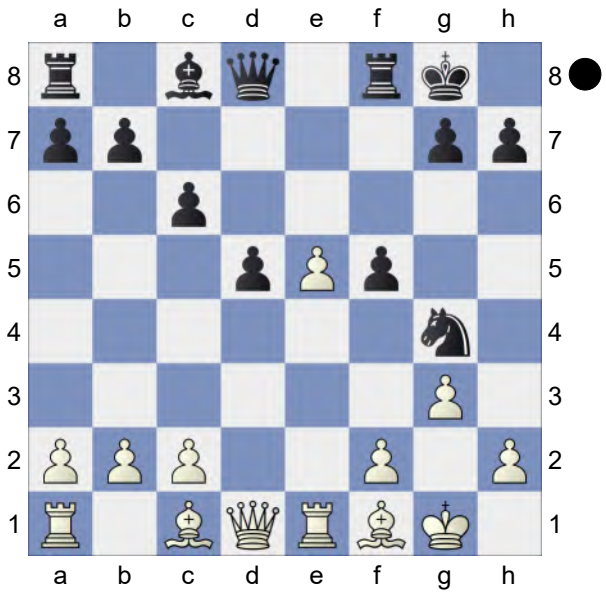
[12...Bc7 13.Nf5 d5 14.Ne7+ Kh8 15.Nxc8 Rxc8 16.d3 f5 17.g3 Qf6 18.Bd2 Nd6 19.Bc3 d4 20.Bd2 Nf7 21.f4 Rce8 22.Bg2 Nd6 23.a3 Bb6 24.Rxe8 Rxe8 25.Qf1 Kg8 26.Re1 Re6 27.a4 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2766)-Giri,A (2750) Biel Suri Memorial 2014 (5) a6 28.Bf3 g6 29.Kg2 Kf7 30.Rxe6 Qxe6 31.Qa1 Bc5 32.b4 Bb6 33.Be1 Nc8 34.Bf2 Qd7 35.h3 h5 36.b5 axb5 37.axb5 cxb5 38.Qa8 Bc5 39.Bxb7 Nb6 40.Qa2+ Kg7 41.Qa6 b4 42.Bf3 1-0 Karacsonyi,G (2292)-Stojanovski,S (2232) EU-ch Online 2300+ Final 2020 (8)]

[12...Be7 13.Qe1 Bf6 14.Nf5 d5 15.Ne7+ Kh8 16.Nxc8 Rxc8 17.g3 Qd7 18.d3 Nc7 19.Qa5 Rfe8 20.Qe1 Rxe2 21.Qxe2 b5 22.c3 d4 23.c4 Re8 24.Qd1 bxc4 25.dxc4 Ne6 26.b4 d3 27.Rb1 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2787)-Aronian,L (2805) Saint Louis 122/111 2014]

13.Nc4 Bc7 14.Re1 -0.24/19

[White should try 14.d4 0.29/19]

14...Nf6!= 15.d4 Ng4! 16.g3 d5 17.Ne5 Bxe5! 18.dxe5



f4! 19.Qd4

[19.gxf4? Qh4 20.Bg2 Qxf2+ *(20...Nxh2 21.Qd3=; 20...Qxh2+? 21.Kf1-+)* 21.Kh1 Qh4-+]

[19.Bxf4 Rxf4 20.gxf4 Qh4∓]

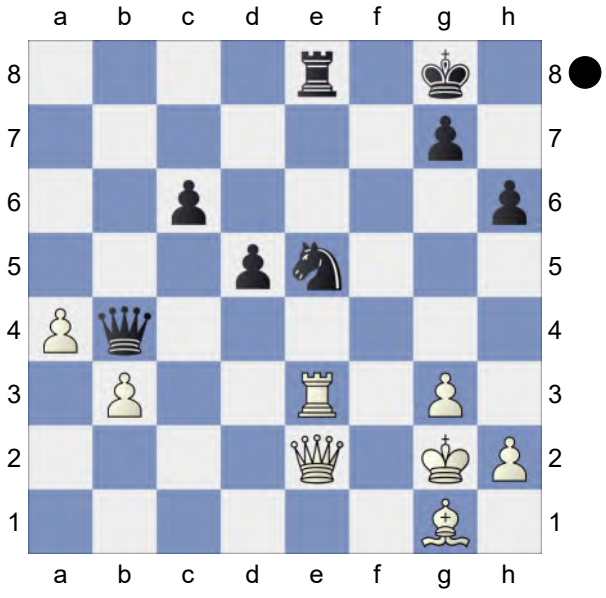
[19.e6 fxg3 20.hxg3 Nxf2 21.e7]

19...fxg3 20.fxg3 Nf2 21.Bg2

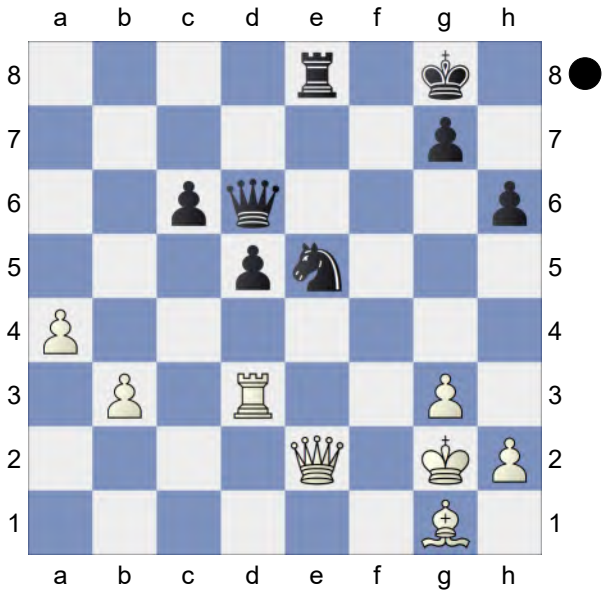
[21.e6 Ne4 22.c4 Bxe6 23.cxd5 cxd5 24.Bg2]

21...Nh3+ 22.Kh1 Be6 23.Be3 h6

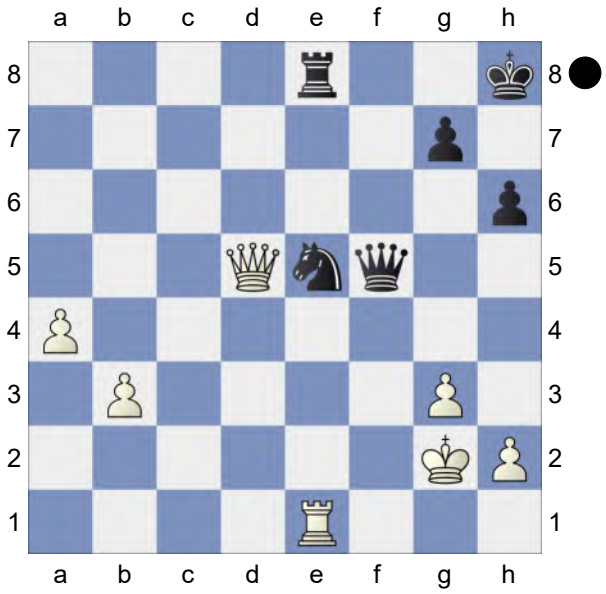
24.a4 Qe8 25.Rf1 Qg6 26.Qc3 -0.56/21
[26.Qb4= -0.01/19]
26...a6 -0.01/23
[26...a5!∓ -0.56/21]
27.Bc5
[27.Qb4 keeps more tension. Qxc2 28.Qxb7 Rab8 29.Qxa6 Rxf1+ 30.Qxf1 Qxb2]
27...Rxf1+ 28.Rxf1 Ng5 29.Be3 Nf7 ...Re8 poses a challenge **30.Qb4 Re8 31.Qxb7 Bf5 32.Qxa6 Nxe5 33.Bg1** -0.88/22
[33.Bd4∓ -0.47/22 feels stronger.]
33...Bxc2∓ White is weak on the light squares **34.Re1 Be4 35.b3** -2.33/23 Against Nc4
[35.Bxe4∓ -0.48/21 dxe4 36.Be3]
35...Bxg2+-+ 36.Kxg2 Qe2 is the strong threat. **36...Qc2+ 37.Re2?** -3.52/26
[37.Kh1∓ -1.50/21 keeps fighting. Qxb3 38.Bd4]
37...Qc3
[37...Qxb3 38.Bd4 Qf3+ 39.Kg1-+]
38.Re3 Qb4
[38...Qc5? 39.Re4 Qc2+ 40.Re2 Qxb3 41.Bd4 Qf3+ 42.Kg1-+]
39.Qe2



Qd6 40.Rd3



c5 Inhibits Bd4. **41.Rd1 d4 42.Qe4 Qd7 43.Bxd4 cxd4 44.Rxd4 Qc8 45.Qd5+ Kh8** and ...Ng4 would now be decisive **46.Re4 Qc2+ 47.Kh3 Qc8+?** 0.01/26
[47...Qc3-+ -4.23/25 48.Re2 g5]
48.Kg2= Qf5 49.Re1



Rc8! (→ ...Rc2+) **50.Rf1**
[Of course not 50.Qxe5 Rc2+]
50...Qc2+
[50...Rc2+ 51.Kg1 Qc8 *(51...Qd3? 52.Rf8+ Kh7 53.Qxe5+-)* 52.Qxe5=]

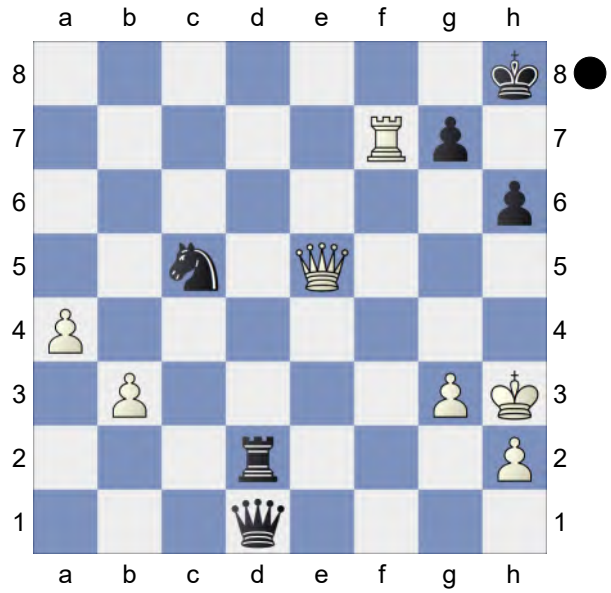
51.Rf2 Qc7 52.Kh3 Against Ng4 **52...Rd8 53.Qe6 Qc3 54.Kg2** Against Nf3 **54...Nd3 55.Rf1 Qd2+ 56.Kh1 Nc5 57.Qe5 Qd3 58.Rf7 Qd1+**

[58...Nxb3 59.Qxg7#]

59.Kg2 Rd2+

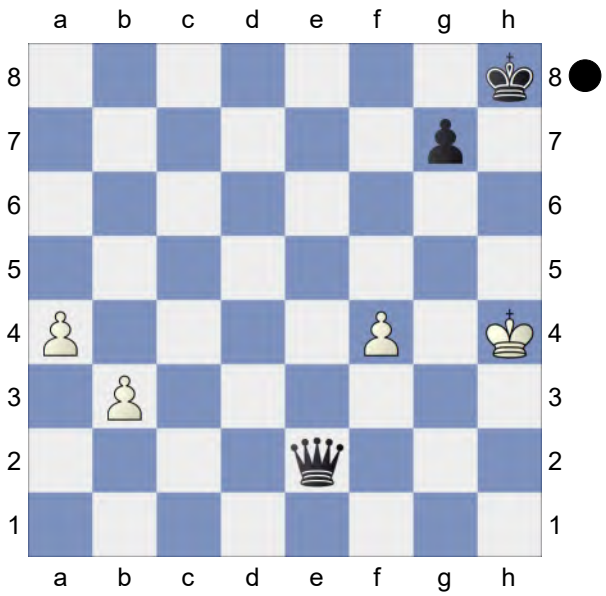
[59...Nxb3 60.Qxg7#]

60.Kh3



Ne6! (→ ...Ng5+). Deflection **61.Rf5 Ng5+** Deflection **62.Rxg5 hxg5 63.Qxg5 Qf1+ 64.Kg4 Qe2+ 65.Kh3 Qxh2+ 66.Kg4 Rd4+ 67.Qf4 Qe2+ 68.Kh4 Rxf4+ 69.gxf4**

(Diagram)



g5+! 70.Kxg5

[70.fxg5 Qg2]

70...Qd1 71.Kf6 Qxb3 72.f5 Qxa4 73.Ke5 Kg7 74.Kd6 Kf6 75.Kc5 Kxf5 76.Kb6 Qc2 77.Kb5 Ke5 78.Kb6 Kd6 (→ ...Qb3+) **79.Kb5 Qb3+** Black mates. **80.Ka6 Kc6 81.Ka5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/ Black=0.14 (very precise) **81...Qa3#**

0-1

26 **C65**

□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2757**

■ **So,Wesley** **2751**

Bucharest Superbet Classic 5th (4)

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.0-0! is more profitable than 7. Nc4 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 7.Sc4. **7...a5N**

[7...0-0 8.Nc4 f6 *(8...Re8 9.a4 Bd6 10.Be3 Nf8 11.d4 exd4 12.Qxd4*

Bg4 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.Nd2 Ne6 15.Qb4 Be2 16.Rfe1 Ba6 17.Rad1 Qf6 18.Nf1 c5 19.Qb3 Rad8 20.c4 Nf8 21.Qc2 Qe6 22.Nd2 b6 23.f3 Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence-8.Nc4 Re8 9.a4 Survey 2018*)* 9.Nh4 *(9.Be3 Bd6 10.d4 Nb6 11.Nxd6 cxd6 12.Qd3 Be6 13.b3 f5 14.c4 fxe4 15.Qxe4 Bf5 16.Qh4 e4 17.Qxd8 Raxd8 18.Nd2 d5 19.Rac1 Be6 20.Rfe1 a5 21.Bg5 Rde8 22.Bh4 Nd7 23.Nf1 a4* 0-1 Abdusattorov,N (2713)-So,W (2760) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (1.16)*; 9.Kh1 a5 10.Nh4 Nb6 11.Be3 Bd4 12.Nxb6 cxb6 13.Qc1 Be6 14.f4 exf4 15.Bxd4 Qxd4 16.Rxf4 c5 17.Rf1 a4 18.Nf3 Qd6 19.Qe3 b5 20.h3 b4 21.b3 b6* Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence-5.Bc6 dc6 6.0-0 Nd7 Survey 2018 *)* 9...Rf7 10.Kh1 Nf8 11.Be3 Ne6 12.Bxc5 Nxc5 13.Ne3 g6 14.g3 a5 15.Qe1 Bh3 16.Rg1 f5 17.Qc3 Qd4 18.exf5 Qxc3 19.bxc3 Bxf5 20.Nhxf5 gxf5 21.g4 fxg4 22.Nxg4 ½-½ Novy,M (2654)-Ojasuo,A (2693) Sarajevo 1999 (7)]

8.Nc4 White has an edge. **8...f6 9.c3N**

[9.d4 exd4 10.Nxd4 Qe7! Repels Ne6 11.Nf5 Qf7 12.b3 b5 13.Nd2 -0.48/21 *(13.Nb2=* 0.23/21 *)* 13...g6 -0.04/21 *(13...Bb7∓* -0.48/21 was preferable.*)* 14.Nh6= Qg7 15.Nf3 0-1 Adhiban,B (2610)-Pechac, J (2637) Tata Steel-B 85th 2023 (7)]

9...b5 10.Ne3 0-0 11.d4 Bd6! 12.Re1 Re8 13.Nf5 Bf8 14.N3h4 -0.43/23

[14.Qb3+= 0.17/21 Kh8 15.Qc2]

14...Nb6 0.01/22

[14...exd4!∓ -0.43/23 15.cxd4 Nb6]

15.Qg4 exd4

[15...Nc4 is interesting. 16.Be3 Nxb2 17.dxe5 fxe5 18.Bc1 Nc4]

16.cxd4 -0.45/21

[16.Bf4= 0.01/22]

16...Bxf5 0.14/20

[16...Qxd4 17.Qxg7+ Bxg7 18.Nxd4=]

[16...Kh8∓ -0.45/21]

17.Nxf5= g6 18.e5 Kh8 19.Nh6 Qd5 Against Nf7+ **20.h4 Nd7** 0.93/21

[20...Re6± 0.36/20]

21.Bf4± f5 1.60/20

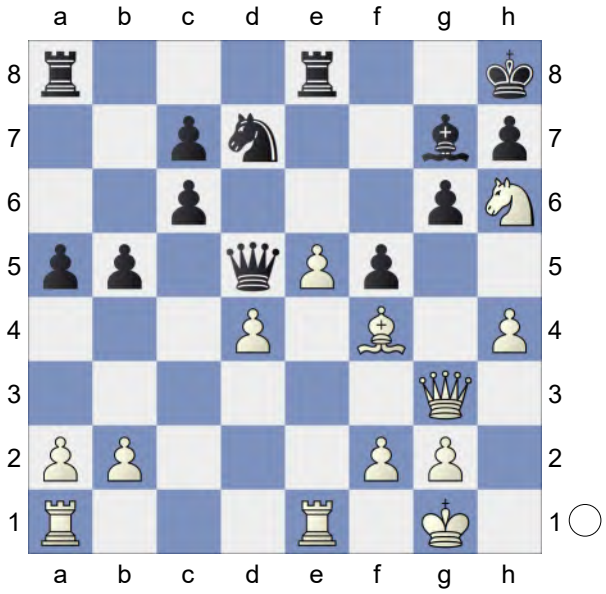
[Black should play 21...c5± 0.70/21]

22.Qg3 1.09/21

[Better is 22.Qh3 1.60/20]

22...Bg7 1.91/21

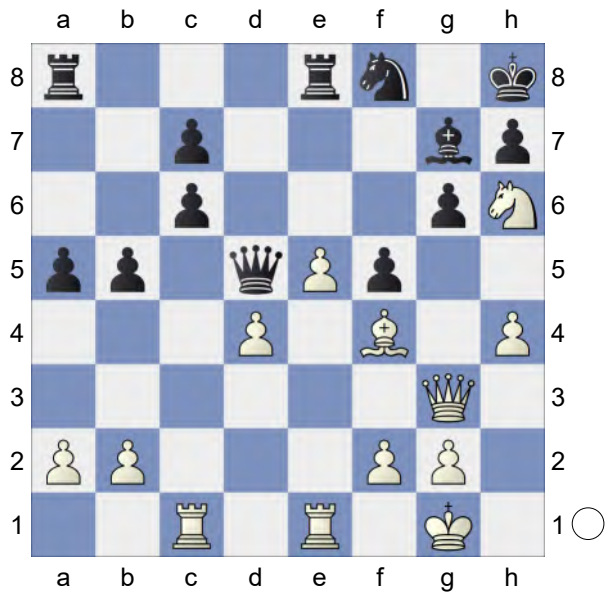
[22...Qe6± 1.09/21 23.Rac1 *(23.h5 Nb6=)* 23...Bb4]



23.Rac1!+- Nf8 2.22/23

[23...a4 1.72/21 24.a3 *(24.h5 b4=)* 24...Nf8]

(Diagram)



24.h5! Bxh6 25.Bxh6 Re6 26.Bg5 Nd7 Dodges Bf6+ **27.h6 Kg8 28.Rc2 c5** 3.14/20

[28...Rf8 2.18/21 was worth a try. 29.Qf3 Qxf3 30.gxf3 f4]

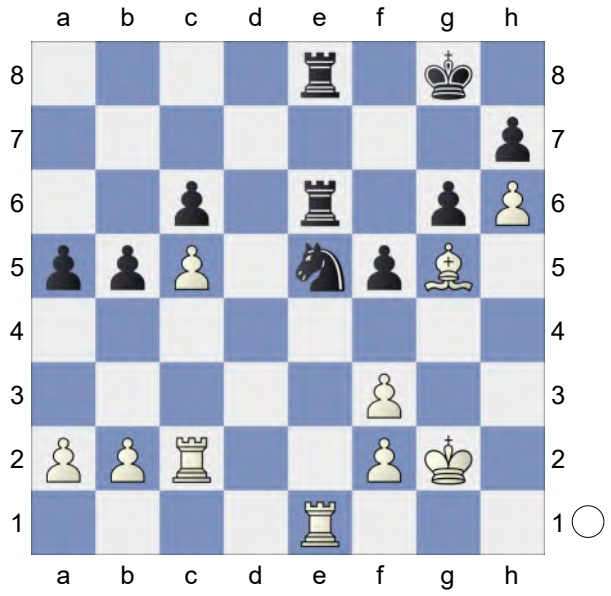
29.Qf3? 0.68/28

[29.dxc5+- 3.14/20 Nxe5 30.Rce2]

29...Qxf3± 30.gxf3 c6 31.dxc5 White is more active. **31...Nxe5?** 3.38/28

[31...Rxe5± 1.47/24 32.Rxe5 Nxe5]

32.Kg2+- Rae8



33.Rce2? -0.01/24

[33.f4!+- 3.04/25 Nf7 *(33...Nd3 34.Rxe6 Rxe6 35.Rd2+-)* 34.Rd1]

33...Nd3= Discovered Attack, Deflection, Double Attack. The position is equal. **34.Rd1! Rxe2 35.Rxd3 Rxb2** Endgame KRR-KRB **36.Rd7** Rg7+ is the strong threat. **36...Ree2 37.Kg3 Rxf2** ...f4+ is the strong threat. **38.Rd8+ Kf7 39.Rd7+! Kg8 40.Rd8+ Kf7 41.Rd7+!** Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.26 (precise) **41...Kg8**

½-½

27	**C67**
□ **ArasanX**	**3092**
■ **TheMatrix2029**	**3066**
Rapid	26.02.2025

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 5min+5sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Lenderman,A: 'Welcome everyone! This is GM Alex Lenderman with the report of the round 7 Game of the Day for the Gibraltar Festival. It was not easy to choose between many great games this round, but in the end I decided to choose a key battle between two elite players on board 2, since I thought Maxime (Or MVL) played a very nice game against the Berlin against a very strong and solid GM Michael Adams, who has a lot of experience in the Berlin with both colours.' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Be7 10.Rd1+**

[10.Nc3 Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4 12.Be3 h5 13.Rad1+ Ke8 14.Ne2 b6 15.a4 c5 16.Nc3 Bf5 17.Nb5 Bd8 18.Rd2 a6 19.Nc3 h4 20.a5 Rh5 21.Rfd1

Bh7 22.Nd5 Be4 23.c4 Rb8 24.f4 Rf5 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2796)-Adams,M (2751) Gibraltar Masters 15th 2017 (7)]

10...Ke8 11.Nc3 Nh4 12.Nd4 h5N

[12...Ng6 13.f4 h5 14.Be3 Nh4 15.Ne4 Nf5 16.Kf2 h4 17.Rd2 Nxd4 18.Bxd4 Be6 19.Bc5 Bd8 20.a4 b6 21.Ba3 c5 22.a5 Rh5 23.b4 Rf5 24.bxc5 Rxf4+ 25.Ke3 Rf5 26.cxb6 axb6 27.axb6 ½-½ Kosteniuk,A (2456)-Karjakin,S (2547) Brissago Dannemann m 2003 (5)]

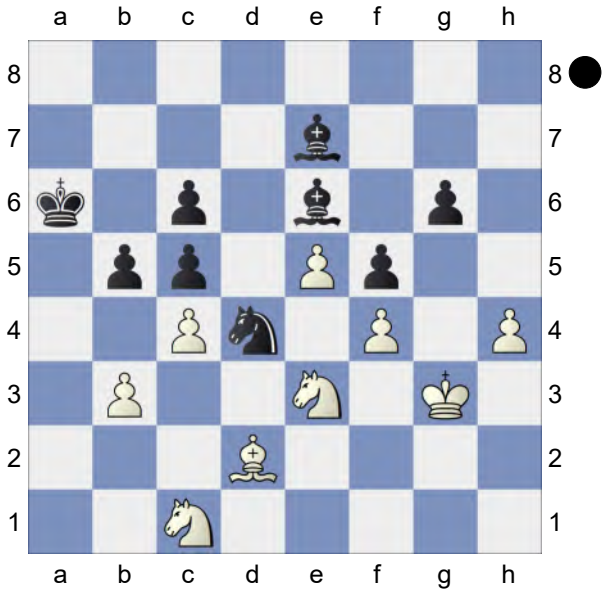
[12...Nf5 13.Nde2 h5 14.a4 a5 15.b3 Bd7 16.Ba3 Bxa3 17.Rxa3 Ke7 18.Ne4 b6 19.Raa1 Rad8 20.Nf4 h4 21.Ng5 Be8 22.e6 Rxd1+ 23.Rxd1 Nd6 24.exf7 Bxf7 25.Nxf7 Kxf7 26.f3 Re8 27.Kf2 ½-½ Mertens,G (2436)-Janssens,J (2332) FIDE World CH 1996 (2)]

13.Ne4 Nf5 14.Nf3 White has an edge. **14...h4 15.b3 c5 16.c4 Be6 17.Bb2 Rd8 18.Rxd8+ Kxd8 19.Rd1+ Ke8 20.Nc3 Bd8 21.Nh2 Rh6 22.Ba3 b6 23.Bc1 Rh5 24.Ng4 Bd7 25.f3 Nd4 26.f4 Bc6 27.Be3 Ne6 28.Rf1 Rf5 29.Bc1 a5 30.Nd5 Kd7 31.Rf2 Kc8 32.Bb2 a4 33.Ba1 Bd7 34.Kf1 axb3 35.axb3 c6 36.Nge3 Rh5 37.Nc3 f5 38.Ra2 Be8 39.Ne2 g6 40.Bc3 Rh7 41.Ra8+ Kb7 42.Ra1 Bf7 43.Be1 Be8 44.Rd1 Kc8 45.Rd6 Nf8 46.Kf2 Ra7 47.Bc3 b5 48.Rd1 Bf7 49.Ra1 Rd7 50.Ra8+ Kb7 51.Ra2 Bb6 52.Rd2 Rxd2 53.Bxd2 Ne6 54.Bc3 Nd4! 55.Nc1 Be6 56.g3 hxg3+ 57.Kxg3 Bd8 58.Bd2** -0.80/26

[58.h4∓ -0.42/27 is more appropriate.]

58...Be7 Black is more active. **59.Be1 Ka6 60.Bc3 Kb6 61.Bb2 Ka5 62.Bc3+ Ka6! 63.Be1 Bf8 64.Bf2 Bh6 65.h4 Bf8 66.Be1 Be7! 67.Bd2** -1.39/28

[White should play 67.Bf2 -0.86/27]



67...Bxh4+!∓ Decoy **68.Kxh4 Nf3+ 69.Kg3 Nxd2** Endgame KBN-KNN. Black is a pawn up. **70.Kh4 Nf3+** -0.48/26

[70...bxc4?! 71.bxc4 Nf3+ *(71...Nxc4 72.Nxc4 Bxc4 73.Kg5±; 71...Bxc4 72.Kg5±)* 72.Kg3=]

[70...Ne4!∓ -1.31/30 71.Ne2 b4]

71.Kg3∓ Nd2 0.01/26

[Better is 71...Nd4!∓ -0.58/32]

72.Kh4!= Ne4!

[72...bxc4?! 73.bxc4 Nf3+ *(73...Nxc4 74.Nxc4 Bxc4 75.Kg5+-; 73...Bxc4 74.Kg5±)* 74.Kg3=]

73.Nd3 Ka5 -2.23/27

[73...Bc8∓ -1.40/28 74.cxb5+ cxb5]

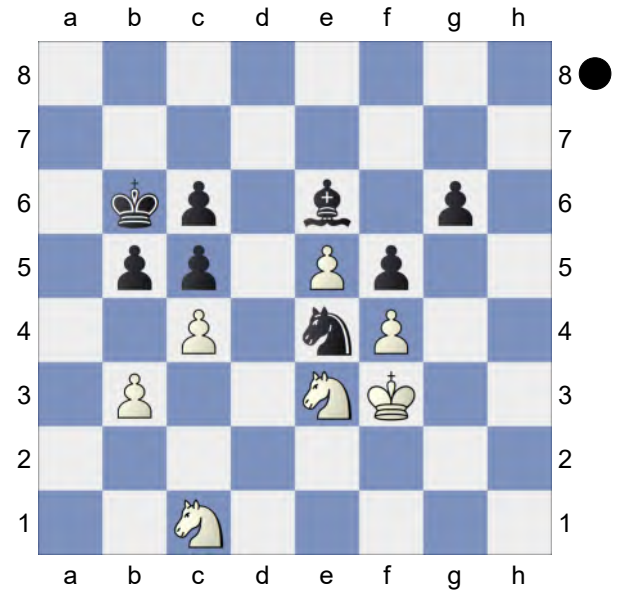
74.Kh3-+ Kb6 75.Kh4 Kc7 76.Kh3 -2.67/25

[76.Nb2∓ -1.50/26 is a better defense.]

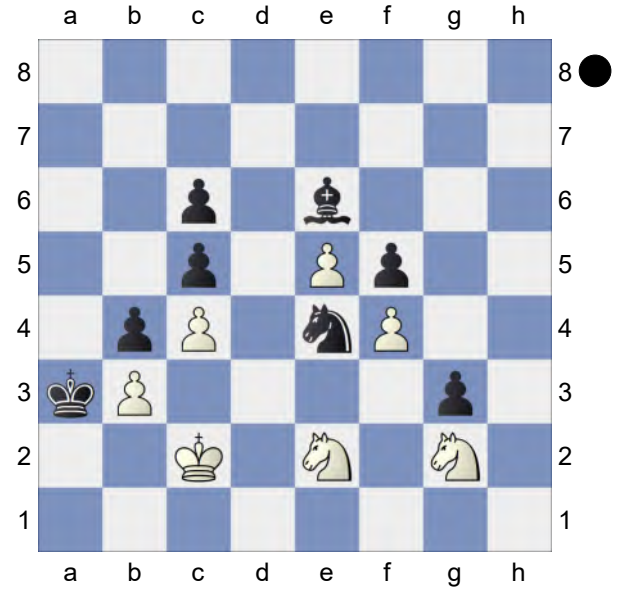
76...Kc8 77.Kg2 Kb7! White does not recover from this. **78.Nc1?** -4.53/26

[78.Kh3∓ -1.59/24 is the only way for White.]

78...Kb6 79.Kf3

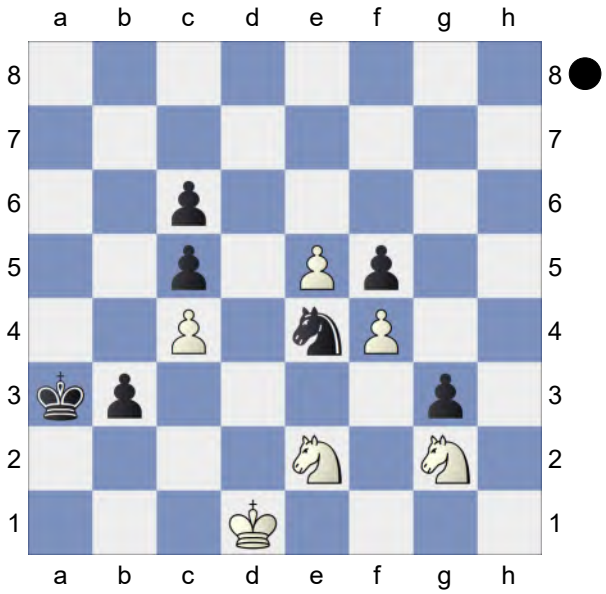


Ka5! Strongly threatening ...Kb4. Black is clearly winning. **80.Ke2 Kb4 81.Kd3 Ka3 82.Kc2 g5 83.Nd3** -6.21/29
[⩲83.fxg5 -4.26/25 f4 *(83...Nxg5 84.Kb1∓)* 84.Ng2]
83...g4 84.Nc1 g3 85.Ne2 b4 86.Ng2



Bxc4! Promotion **87.bxc4** aiming for Nc1. **87...b3+ 88.Kd1**

(Diagram)



b2! 89.Kc2 Ka2 90.Nc1+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) / Black=0.05 (flawless) **90...bxc1R+**
[90...bxc1N? 91.Kxc1 Kb3 92.Nh4 Kxc4 93.Kc2-+]
0-1

28 **C67**
□ **admonitor** **2880**
■ **duchessAI** **2895**
Rapid 25.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min+2sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 CC HeaderStart CC Game: 'The file that matters' CC HeaderEnd CC When I played through the following game, I had the feeling that I'd seen a great game, but I didn't understand why. After quite a bit of analysis, I think I do ! The opening is a solid anti-Berlin variation with a symmetrical pawn structure and only the faintest initiative for White. Between moves 25 and 34, AlphaZero unbalances the position: White gains an outpost for its knight on c5, control of the open e-file,

an invasion square on e6 and weak black queenside pawns on a5 and c6. However AlphaZero slowly reels White in, first creating a dark- square weakness on White's kingside and then converting this weakness into an advanced pawn on g3 with 41... hxg3. Stockfish lets it all happen, evaluating the position before and after with exactly the same value (0.00) . The g3-pawn restricts the movement of the white king and AlphaZero uses this to stretch White's position to breaking point by opening an extra file - the a-file - and targeting White's queenside pawns, after which White's position eventually collapses. Game themes: 1. Avoiding the automatic occupation of an open file 2. Using a rook's pawn to weaken the opponent's king's position 3. Advanced bishop outpost 4. Improving the position of the king before the next wave of attack **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 a5N**

[11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1

A) 12...Ne8 13.d5 *(13.a4 a5 14.d5 d6 15.Nd2 Bf5 16.Ne4 Bxe4 17.Qxe4 g6 18.Bb5 Ng7 19.Bd2 Qe7 20.Qc4 g5 21.Re1 Be5 22.g3 Qd8 23.Qg4 h6 24.f4 f5 25.Qh3 gxf4 26.gxf4 Bf6 27.Qxh6 Kf7* 1-0 Kumari,P (2582)-Mecelica,E (2548) 2009 (1.2)*; 13.Bf4 d5 14.Nd2 Bf5 15.Qe3 Nd6 16.Nf3 a5 17.Re1 c6 18.a4 h6 19.Qc1 Be7 20.b3 Ne8 21.Qe3 Bf8 22.Bd3 Qf6 23.Ne5 Nd6 24.f3 Bxd3 25.Nxd3 h5 26.Qd2 b5 27.Qd1 Rc8* Part III: Themes in AlphaZero-Stockfish 8 vs. AlphaZero*)* 13...c6 14.Nd2 cxd5 15.Nf3 d6 16.Be3 Nc7 17.Qd2 Bd7 18.g3 Bc6 19.Bg2 Ne6 20.Rd1 Qa5 21.a3 h6 22.Nd4 Nxd4 23.Bxd4 Bxd4 24.Qxd4 Re8 25.Bxd5 Bxd5 26.Qxd5 Qxd5 27.Rxd5 Grube,J (2780)-Deslandes,P (2827) USSR 46/573 1988;

B) 12...Qe7 13.Qxe7 Bxe7 14.Bf4 g5 15.Bg3 Ne8 16.Nd2 d6 17.Re1 Kf8 18.Bd3 h6 19.f4 Ng7 20.fxg5 hxg5 Latvian Gambit (2662)-Hafner,R (2639) Chapter 3 (1);

C) 12...Nf5 13.Bf4 c6 14.a4 a5 15.Bc7 Qf8 16.Bd3 d5 17.Bb6 Nd6 18.Nd2 Be6 19.Qb1 g6 20.b4 axb4 21.Qxb4 Bf5 22.Bc5 Bxd3 23.Bxd6 Qe8 24.Nf3 Ba6 25.Be5 Be7 26.Bd6 1-0 Nakamura,H (2775)-Giri,A (2693) Hoogeveen Unive Crown 16th 2012 (1)]

12.Bf4 Black should prevent Bxd6. **12...Rxe1** White has an edge. **13.Qxe1 Ne8! 14.Nd2 d5** Prevents Ne4. **15.Bd3 g6 16.Nf3 Bg4 17.Ne5 Bg5 18.Bg3 Be6 19.Nf3 Bh6 20.h3 c6 21.Qe2 Ng7 22.Bh2 a4 23.Re1 f6 24.Bg3 Qd7 25.Bh4 Rf8 26.Bc2 a3 27.bxa3 Bf4 28.Bg3 Bxg3 29.fxg3 Qd6 30.g4 Qxa3 31.Bb3 Re8 32.Qf2 Qd6 33.g5 Bc8 34.gxf6 Qxf6 35.Ne5 Nh5**

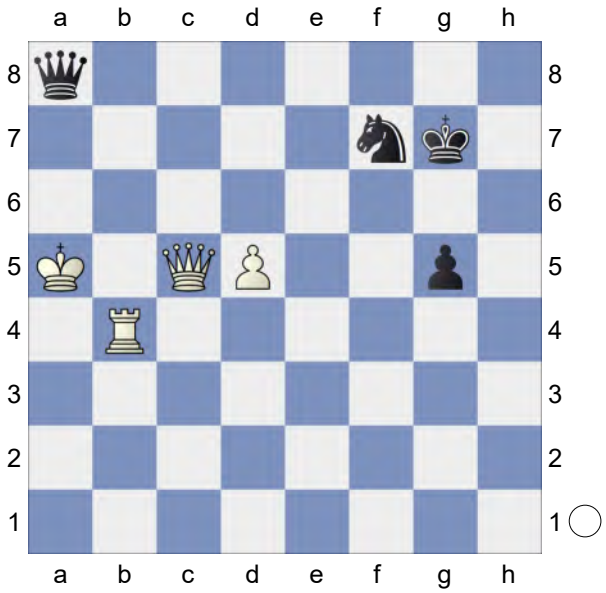
[35...Qxf2+ 36.Kxf2 Rf8+ 37.Kg1 Nf5]

36.c4

[36.Bc2 Qxf2+ 37.Kxf2 Rf8+ 38.Kg1]

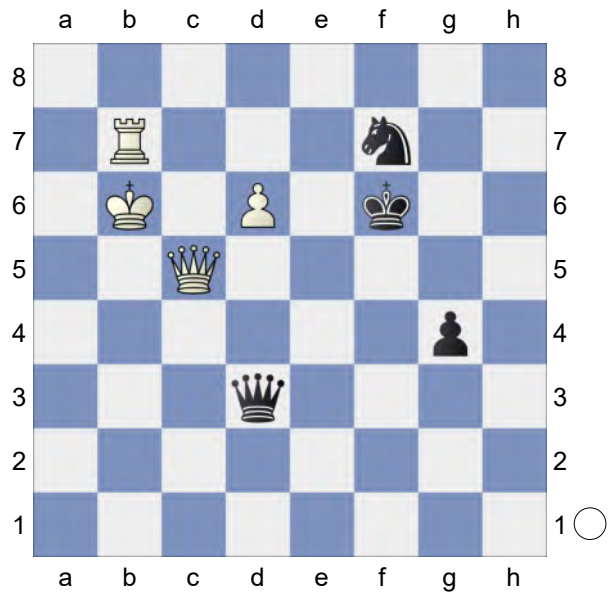
36...Qxf2+ 37.Kxf2 dxc4 38.Bxc4+ Kg7 39.a4 Nf4 40.h4 Ne6 41.Nf3 Nc7 42.Rb1 Re7 43.Ne5 c5 44.Ke3 Be6 45.Kd2 Bd5 46.Bxd5 Nxd5= Endgame KRN-KRN **47.Rb5 Nf4 48.Nd3 Nxg2 49.Nxc5 Nxh4 50.d5**

Nf5 51.Nxb7
[51.Kc3 simplifies Nd6 52.Rb6 Nc8 53.Rxb7 Rxb7 54.Nxb7 Kf6 55.Kd4]
51...h5 1.15/22
[51...Re5!= 0.10/20 remains equal.]
White leaves nothing to chance now.
52.a5± h4 53.a6 h3 ...Re1! would now be deadly. **54.a7 Re1** 2.27/25 **55.a8Q+-**
[55.a8B? h2 56.Kxe1 h1Q+ *(56...h1R+ 57.Kd2+-)* 57.Kd2 Qa1-+]
55...h2 56.Nd6!
[56.Kxe1 h1Q+ 57.Kd2 Qh6+ 58.Kc2 Nd4+ 59.Kd3 Nxb5±]
56...Rd1+
[56...h1Q 57.Nxf5+ gxf5 58.Qa7+ Kg6 59.Rb6+ Kh5 60.Qf7+ Kg4 61.Qg7+ Kf4 62.Qc7+ Kg4 63.Rg6+ Kf3 64.Qg3+ Ke4 65.Re6+ *(65.Qxe1+ Qxe1+ 66.Kxe1 Kxd5+-)* 65...Kxd5 66.Rxe1+- *(66.Qxe1 Qh8+-)*]
57.Kc2
[57.Kxd1?! h1Q+ 58.Kc2 Qg2+ 59.Kb3 Qg3+ 60.Ka2 Qxd6]
57...Nxd6
[57...h1Q 58.Nxf5+ gxf5 59.Qa7+ Kg6 60.Rb6+ Kg5 61.Qe7+ Kf4 62.Qc7+ Kf3 63.Rb3+ Ke4 64.Rb4+ *(64.Qe7+ Kf4+-)* 64...Kxd5 *(64...Ke3 65.Qe5+ Kf2 66.Rf4+)* 65.Rb5+ Ke6 66.Rb6+ Kd5 67.Qd6+ *(67.Rd6+ Ke4+-)* 67...Ke4 68.Rb4+ *(68.Qxd1 Qxd1+ 69.Kxd1 Kd5+-)* 68...Kf3 69.Qf4+ *(69.Qxd1+ Qxd1+ 70.Kxd1 f4+-)* 69...Ke2 70.Qe5+ *(70.Qxf5 Qc6+ 71.Kb3 Rd3+ 72.Ka2 Qa6+ 73.Kb1 Rd1+ 74.Kb2 Rd2+ 75.Kb3 Rd3+-+)* 70...Kf2 71.Rf4+ *(71.Qxf5+ Qf3+-)*]
58.Qa7+ Nf7 59.Kxd1 h1Q+ KQR-KQN **60.Kd2 Qh4** Against Qd4+ **61.Qc7** Prevents Qc4 **61...Qe4** 3.08/23
[61...Qd4+ 1.97/22 was necessary. 62.Kc2 Qe4+ 63.Kb3 Qb1+ 64.Ka4 Qa1+ 65.Kb4 Qb2+ 66.Ka5 Qa1+ 67.Kb6 Qd4+ 68.Kb7 Qd3]
62.Kc3 g5 63.Qc5 Qe1+ 64.Kb3 Qb1+ 65.Ka4 Qa1+ 66.Kb4 Qb2+ 67.Ka5 Qa1+ 68.Kb6 Qe5 69.Rb4 Qb8+ 70.Ka5 Qa8+

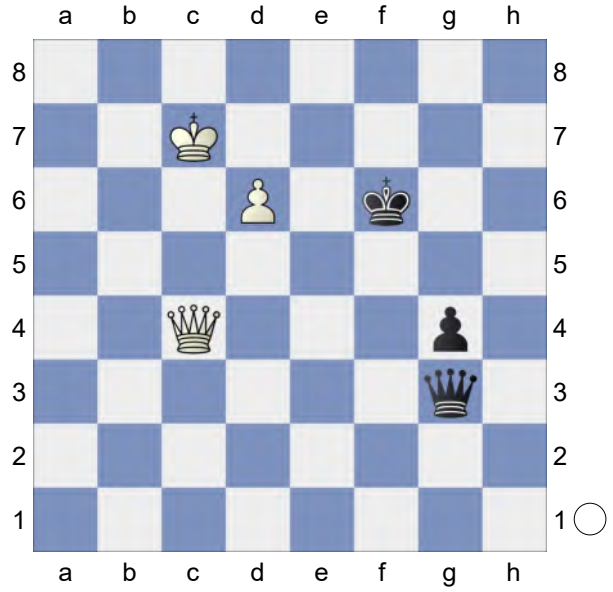


71.Kb5! Re4 is the strong threat.
71...Qe8+ 72.Qc6 Qe2+? 4.09/22
[72...Qb8+ 2.34/21 73.Ka4 Qe5]
73.Kb6 Qe7 74.Qc5 Qd8+ 75.Kb7 Qd7+ 76.Ka6 Qh3 77.Rb7 Qd3+ 78.Kb6 g4 79.d6 Kf6

(Diagram)



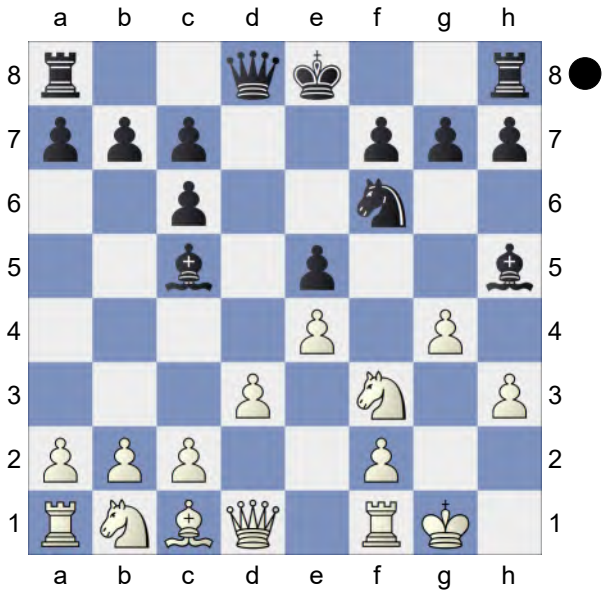
Repels Qg5+ **80.Rxf7+! Kxf7** KQ-KQ
81.Kc7 Ke6 82.Qc6 Qg3
[Don't blunder 82...Qh7+? 83.d7+ Ke5 84.Kc8+-]
83.Qc4+ Kf6



84.Qc5! Qh2 85.Qd4+ Kf5? 11.92/23
[85...Kf7 3.60/24 86.Qe4 *(86.Qxg4 Qe5±; 86.Qd5+ Kf6±)* 86...g3]
86.Kb6 Ke6 87.Qc4+
[87.Qxg4+ Kxd6 88.Qb4+ Ke6=]
87...Kf6 88.Qc3+
[And not 88.Qxg4 Qxd6+ 89.Kb5 Kf7=]
88...Kg6 89.d7 Qb8+ 90.Kc6 Kf7 91.Qa5 Qb3 92.d8Q Qc4+ 93.Kb7 Qb3+ 94.Ka8 Qf3+ 95.Qad5+ Qxd5+ 96.Qxd5+ Kf6 97.Qh5 g3 98.Qf3+ Ke5 99.Qxg3+ Ke4 100.Kb7 Kd4 101.Qf3 Ke5 102.Kc6 Kd4 103.Qe2 White wants to mate with Kd6. **103...Kc3 104.Kc5** White mates. **104...Kb3 105.Qd2 Ka3 106.Kc4 Ka4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
107.Qa2#
1-0

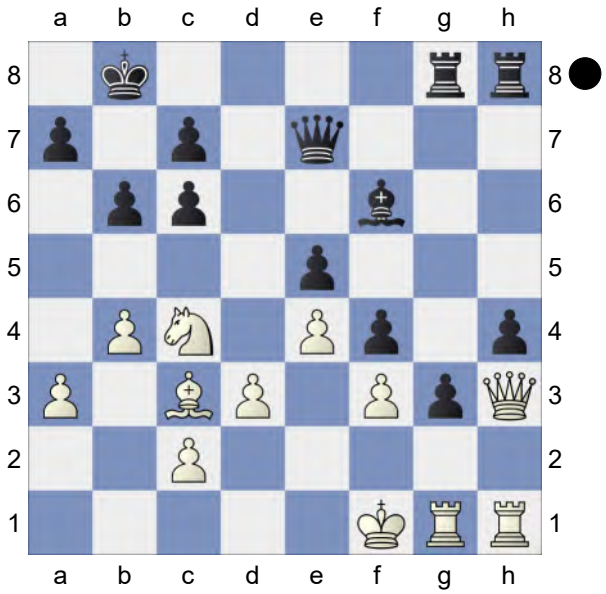
29 **C65**
□ **RipTorn** **3084**
■ **TheMatrix2029** **3062**
Blitz 23.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Bg4 7.h3 Bh5 8.g4

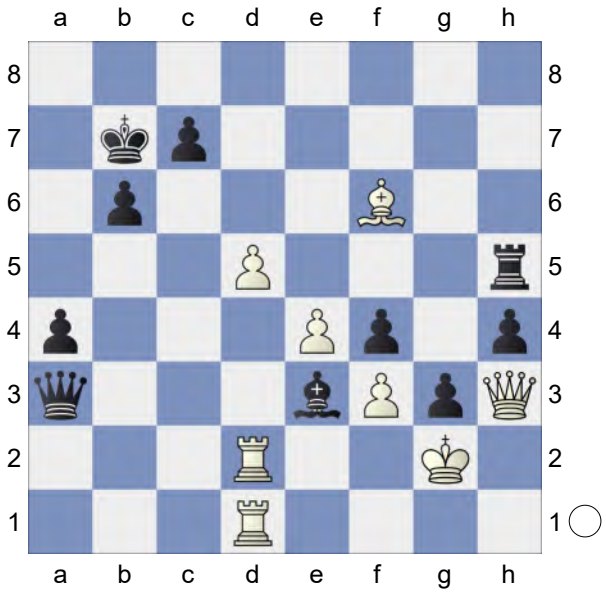


The position is equal. **8...Nxg4 9.hxg4**

Bxg4 10.Be3! Be7 This pair of bishops is nice. **11.Kg2 f5 12.Qe1 Bxf3+ 13.Kxf3 f4 14.Bd2 Qd7** Black has compensation. **15.Ke2 g5 16.Bc3 Bf6 17.Nd2 h5** ...g4 poses a challenge **18.Rh1 g4**
[18...0-0-0 keeps more tension. 19.f3 g4 20.Qf2 Kb8]
19.Nc4 -0.71/20
[19.f3= -0.21/21 keeps the balance. 0-0-0 20.Qf2]
19...Qe6∓ 20.f3 0-0-0! 21.Qf2 Kb8 22.a3 g3 23.Qg2 Rdg8 24.Qh3 Qe7 25.Rag1 h4 26.b4 b6 27.Kf1

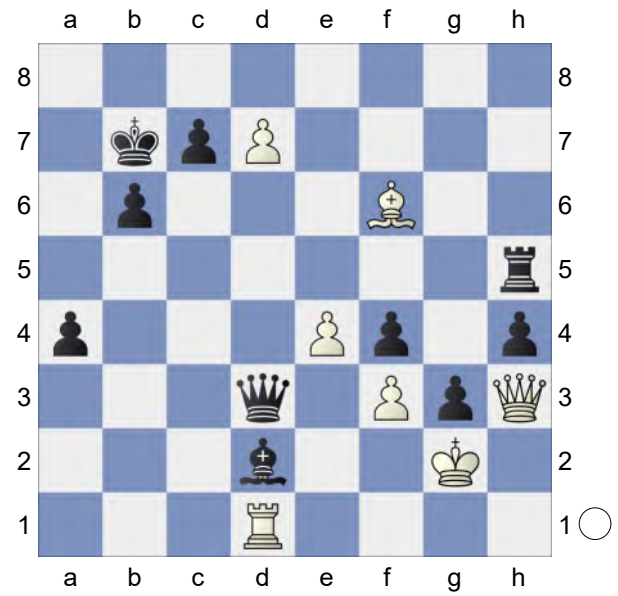


a5 -0.24/23 **28.Kg2=**
[28.bxa5? b5 29.Nb2 Qxa3-+]
28...Kb7N
[28...a4 29.Rb1 Rd8 30.Nb2 b5 31.Nd1 Rh6 3) Training with Engines- Leela Zero vs. Stockfish NNUE]
29.Rb1 a4 30.Nb2 Ra8! 31.Nd1 Qf7 -0.13/20
[31...Rad8∓ -1.11/21]
32.Bb2! Rh5 33.Nc3 Qe7 34.Rbd1 Qf8 35.Rd2 Qf7 36.Re1 Qf8 37.Ne2 c5 0.96/22
[37...Rd8= -0.01/23]
38.bxc5± Qxc5 39.Nc3! Qf8 40.Nd5 Rd8 0.90/26
[40...Be7± 0.37/20]
41.c4! Be7 42.d4 exd4 1.24/22
[⌓42...c6 0.75/23]
43.Bxd4 Bc5 44.Bc3 Bf2 1.45/21
[⌓44...Rh7 1.02/19]
45.Red1 Black cannot hold the game after this. **45...Qxa3?** 4.18/23
[45...Be3± 1.32/20]
46.Bf6+-
[46.Nxf4 Rxd2 47.Rxd2 *(47.Bxd2 Qb3=)* 47...Qxc3=]
46...Rdxd5 4.79/21
[⌓46...Rd7 3.36/20 47.e5 *(47.Qxd7 h3+ 48.Kf1 Qc5±; 47.Rxf2 Rdxd5 48.cxd5 gxf2±)* 47...Bc5]
47.cxd5 d6! is the strong threat.
[47.Rxd5 Rxd5 48.cxd5 Qa2± *(48...Qb3 49.Qh1±)*]
47...Be3



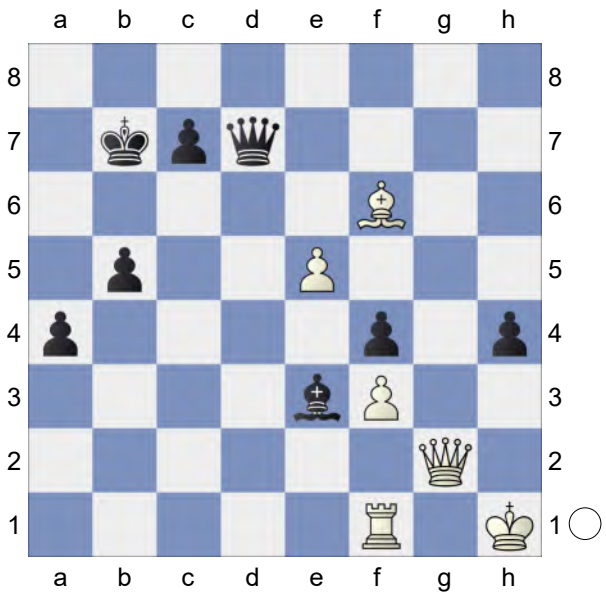
48.d6! Bxd2 49.d7! Active counter play!
[49.Rxd2 Qc1 50.Ra2 Qc4∓]
[49.dxc7 Rc5 50.Rxd2 Rxc7±]
49...Qd3

(Diagram)



(→ ...Qe2+) **50.Rf1! Rh8 51.Bxh8 Be3 52.Bf6**
[52.Qxh4? Qd2+ *(52...Qxd7 53.Qh1∓; 52...Qe2+? 53.Kh3-+)* 53.Kh3 Qxd7+ 54.Qg4 Qh7+ 55.Qh4 g2 *(55...Qxh4+? 56.Kxh4 g2 57.Ra1-+)* 56.Qxh7 gxf1Q+ *(56...gxf1N? 57.Be5+-)* 57.Kg4 Qg2+ 58.Kf5 a3-+ *(58...Qxf3? 59.Be5-+)*]
52...Qd2+ 53.Kh1 g2+ 54.Qxg2 Qxd7 55.e5
[55.Bxh4 b5 56.Bf2 b4 57.Bxe3 fxe3±]
55...b5

(Diagram)

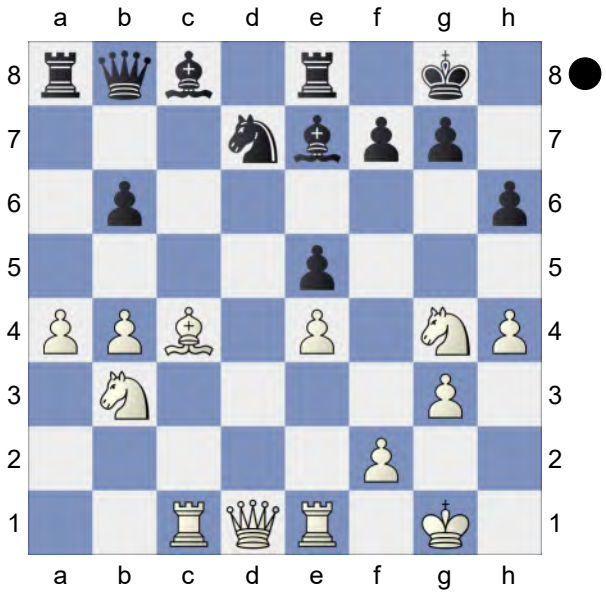


56.Kh2!
[56.Bxh4 a3±]
56...Qf5 57.Qe2
[57.Bxh4 Qxe5 58.Bf2 b4=]
57...Kb6 58.Rd1 Qg6 ...Qg3+ is the strong threat. **59.Qg2**
[59.Bxh4 Qh5 60.Qe1 *(60.Kh3 Qf5+ 61.Kh2 Qxe5±)* 60...Qxe5±]
59...Qf5 60.Rd8 a3 61.Qa2 Prevents Qb1. **61...Bc5 62.Rb8+**
[Not 62.Bxh4 Qh7 63.Qe6+ Ka7+-]
62...Ka6 63.Qb3
[And not 63.Bxh4 Qh7 64.Kh3 Qf5+ 65.Kg2 *(65.Kh2 Qh7=)* 65...Qg6+ 66.Kh3 Qf5+ 67.Kg2 Qg6+ 68.Kh3 Qf5+=]
63...Qd7 64.Ra8+ Kb7 65.Rd8 Qc6 66.e6 Bf8 67.Rxf8 Qc5 68.Rg8 Kb6 69.Qa2 Qc4 70.Qxc4 bxc4 71.e7 a2 72.Rb8+ Ka7 73.e8Q a1Q 74.Bxa1 Intending Qc8 and mate. **74...c3 75.Qb5 c2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.40 **76.Qb7#**
1-0

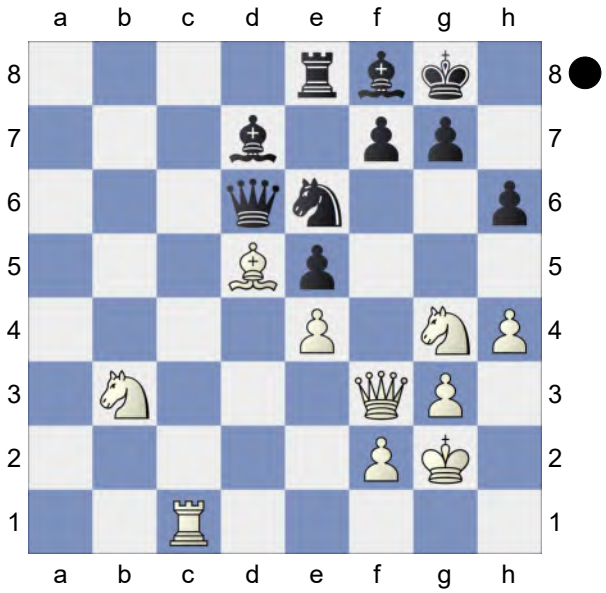
30 **C65**
□ **Obsidian** **3555**
■ **Caissa** **3545**
TCEC 27 Premier 2024 (17.2) 01.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C66: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz Defence **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 0-0 7.c3 Nd7** 0.72/19
[7...a6= 0.29/20 8.Bxc6 bxc6]
[7...Bd7 8.Ba4 Re8 *(8...Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.dxe5 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 dxe5 14.Qg3 Nc6 15.Nc3 Nh5 16.Qh3 Nf6 17.Be3 Qc8 18.Qg3 Ng4 19.Bc1 Nf6 20.Bd1 Kh8 21.Be3 Bb4 22.Bg5 Ng8 23.Bg4* ½-½ King,D (2446)-Ballin,A (2530) Izhevsk Corporation Cup-A 4th 2012 (9.2)) 9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.Nf1 h6 11.Ng3 Ne7 12.Bc2 Ng6 13.d4 c5 14.h3 cxd4 15.cxd4 exd4 16.Qxd4 Qc7 17.Bb3 d5 18.e5 Bc5 19.Qc3 Qb6 20.Be3 d4 21.Bxd4 Bxd4 22.Qxd4 ½-½ Sarwinski,M (2691)-Skalusevic,L (2677) B) 3...g6]
8.d4± White is better. **8...Bf6 9.Be3 a6N**
[9...Ne7 10.Nbd2 Ng6 11.a4 Patole,N-Jungbluth,M URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]
10.Bd3 h6 11.Nbd2 a5 12.Rc1 Ne7 13.h4 Re8 14.g3 Ng6 15.a4 c6 16.Nc4 Qc7 17.Nh2 Bd8 18.Bf1 Be7 19.b4 exd4! 20.Bxd4 Nge5 21.Nxa5 c5 22.Bxe5 dxe5 Black is weak on the light squares **23.Ng4 b6! 24.Nb3**
[24.Qd5 bxa5 25.Nxh6+ *(25.Qxa8 Nb6=)* 25...gxh6=]
24...cxb4 25.cxb4 Qb8 26.Bc4
[26.Bb5 Rd8±]

(Diagram)



26...Nf8 27.Bd5 Bxb4 28.Bxa8 Bxe1 This pair of bishops is nice. **29.Bd5 Bb4 30.Rc4 Bd6 31.Ne3** White has more active pieces. **31...Ne6 32.a5 Bf8 33.Qf3 Bd7 34.axb6**
[Reject 34.a6 Bb5=]
34...Qxb6 35.Rc1 Qb4 36.Ng4 Qd6 37.Kg2

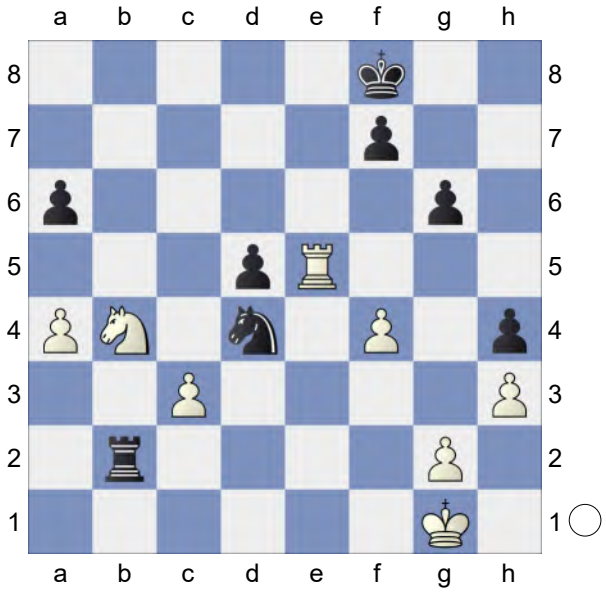


h5 38.Ne3 g6 39.Nc4 Qc7 40.Qe3 aiming for Nb6. **40...Re7 41.Qc3 Bh6! 42.Rc2 Kh7 43.Ra2**
[43.Qxe5 Nf4+ 44.gxf4 Rxe5 45.fxe5 Qd8-+ *(45...Ba4 46.Rc3∓)*]

43...Bb5 The position is equal. **44.Ra5 Bxc4**
[44...Nd4 is interesting. 45.Nxd4 exd4 46.Qa3 Bxc4 47.Bxc4 d3]
45.Qxc4 Qxc4 46.Bxc4 Nd4 47.Nxd4 exd4 48.Rd5 Rc7 49.Bd3 Bc1 50.Rxd4 Bb2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless) **51.Rd5**
½-½

31 **C67**
□ **Praggnanandhaa,R..** **2741**
■ **Aravindh,Chithambaram VR.** **2729**
7th Prague Masters 2025 (5) 02.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** White has an edge. **13.Bf4 d5 14.Nd2**
[14.Bd3 g6 15.Na3 c6 16.Nc2 Ng7 17.Qd2 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Ne3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 Qe7 21.Qxe7 Bxe7 22.Re1 Bf8 23.Kf1 f6 24.g4 Kf7 25.h3 Re8 26.Rxe8 Kxe8 27.Ke2 Kd7 28.Kd3 Ke6 1-0 Carlsen,M (2855)-Aronian,L (2792) Paris GCT blitz 2016 (4)]
14...g6
[14...c6 15.Qe3 Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 18.Qg3 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 1-0 Lou,Y (2459)-Zhao,J (2535) TCh-CHN Div A Finals Shaoxing 2024 (2.1)]
15.Qe3N
[15.Qe2 c6 16.Re1 Ng7 17.h3 Bf5 18.g4 Be6 19.Nb3 b6 20.Nc1 Bg5 21.Qe3 Bxf4 22.Qxf4 h5 23.Nd3 hxg4 24.hxg4 f6 25.Qh6 Bxg4 26.Nf4 Bf5 27.Nxg6 Bxg6 28.Qxg6 Qd7 29.Qxf6 Rf8 ½-½ Vaisman,V (2599)- ♘d7 10.d4 (2745) Play the Power Pirc 2023 (1.2)]
15...Ng7 16.h3 c6 17.Re1 h5 18.Nf3 Bf5 19.Be5 Ne6 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Ne5 Qg5 22.Qxg5 Nxg5 23.Bd3 Bxd3 24.Nxd3± Endgame. KRN-KRN 24...Ne6 25.f4 Kf8 26.Re5 Ng7 27.Nc5 Nf5 0.41/21
[27...Rd8= 0.01/22 was preferrable.]
28.Nxb7 -0.33/24
[28.g4± 0.41/21 hxg4 29.hxg4]
28...Rb8∓ 29.Na5 Rxb2 30.Nxc6 h4 31.a4 a6 32.Nb4 Nxd4



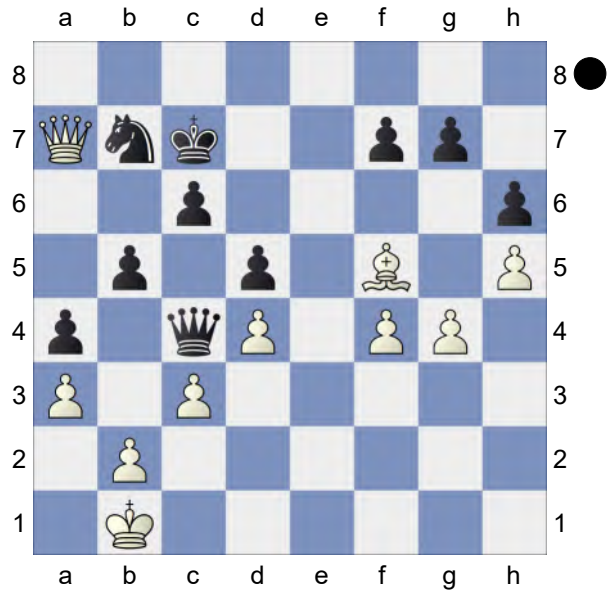
And now ...Nd4-e2+ would win. Deflection **33.Nd3 Rd2 34.cxd4 Rxd3 35.Rxd5=** KR-KR **35...Rd2 36.f5 gxf5 37.Rxf5 Rxd4 38.Ra5 Rd6 39.Kf2 Rf6+ 40.Ke3 Rg6 41.Kf3 Rf6+ 42.Kg4 Rf2 43.Rxa6 Rxg2+ 44.Kxh4 Ra2 45.a5** 0.01/27
[45.Ra8+± 0.83/24 Ke7 46.Kg5]
45...Kg7 46.Ra8 0.01/25
[46.Kg4± 0.40/26]

46...Kg6 47.a6 Ra4+ 48.Kg3 f5 The position is equal. **49.h4 Kg7 50.h5 Kh7 51.Kf3 Kg7 52.Ke3**
[52.a7 seems wilder. Kh7 53.h6 Ra1 54.Kf4]
52...Kh7 53.Kd3
[53.Ke2!? Ra3□ *(53...Kh6 54.a7±)* 54.Kf2=]
53...f4 54.a7 f3 55.Ke3
[55.Kd2!?]
55...Ra3+ 56.Kf2 Kg7 57.h6+ Kh7! 58.Kg3 f2+ 59.Kxf2 Ra1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) / Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

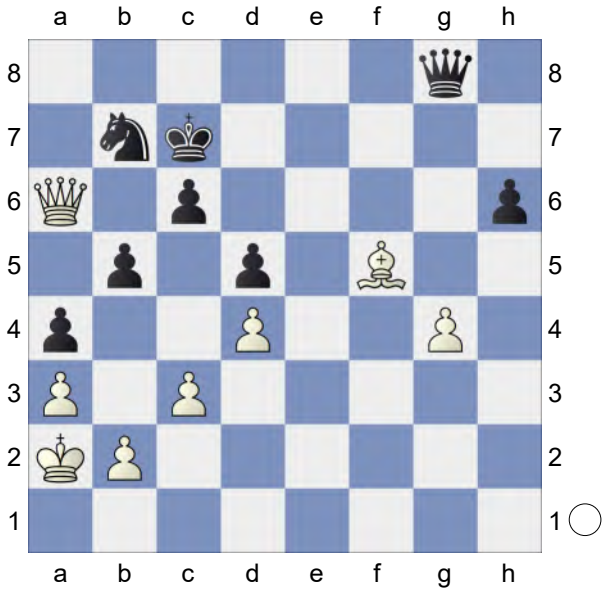
32 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3034**
■ **Nikitosik-ai** **3102**
Rapid 20.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 CC HeaderStart CC Game: 'The file that matters' CC HeaderEnd CC When I played through the following game, I had the feeling that I'd seen a great game, but I didn't understand why. After quite a bit of analysis, I think I do ! The opening is a solid anti-Berlin variation with a symmetrical pawn structure and only the faintest initiative for White. Between moves 25 and 34, AlphaZero unbalances the position: White gains an outpost for its knight on c5, control of the open e-file, an invasion square on e6 and weak black queenside pawns on a5 and c6. However AlphaZero slowly reels White in, first creating a dark- square weakness on White's kingside and then converting this weakness into an advanced pawn on g3 with 41... hxg3. Stockfish lets it all happen, evaluating the position before and after with exactly the same value (0.00) . The g3-pawn restricts the movement of the white king and AlphaZero uses this to stretch White's position to breaking point by opening an extra file - the a-file - and targeting White's queenside pawns, after which White's position eventually collapses. Game themes: 1. Avoiding the automatic occupation of an open file 2. Using a rook's pawn to weaken the opponent's king's position 3. Advanced bishop outpost 4. Improving the position of the king before the next wave of attack **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Nd2**
[14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Qe2 c6 17.Re1 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nf3 Ng7 20.Be5 Ne6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5 Ng7 25.Qxe8+ Nxe8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxe8 Kxe8 Carlsen,M (2870)-Anand,V (2775) (m/8) 119/(106) 2013]
14...Nd6N
[14...Bf5 15.Qe3 Nd6 16.Nf3 a5 17.Re1 c6 18.a4 h6 19.Qc1 Be7 20.b3 Ne8 21.Qe3 Bf8 22.Bd3 Qf6 23.Ne5 Nd6 24.f3 Bxd3 25.Nxd3 h5 26.Qd2 b5 27.Qd1 Rc8 28.Be5 Qg5 29.Bf4 Part III: Themes in AlphaZero-Stockfish 8 vs. AlphaZero]
[14...g6 15.Qe2 c6 16.Re1 Ng7 17.h3 Bf5 18.g4 Be6 19.Nb3 b6 20.Nc1 Bg5 21.Qe3 Bxf4 22.Qxf4 h5 23.Nd3 hxg4 24.hxg4 f6 25.Qh6 Bxg4 26.Nf4 Bf5 27.Nxg6 Bxg6 28.Qxg6 Qd7 29.Qxf6 ½-½ Paravyan,

D (2599)-Radjabov,T (2745) AI Cup Div 3 W rapid 2023 (1.2)]
[14...c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 1-0 Molina,R (2835)-5.dc5 ♗c5 6. ♗f4 (2693) Ivanchuk-Kasparov 1999 (1.2)]
15.Qe2 a5 16.Re1 a4 17.Qf3 Be6 18.a3 Bg5 The position is equal. **19.Bd3 Bxf4 20.Qxf4 Qd7 21.h4 h6 22.h5 Bg4 23.Nf3 Bxf3 24.Qxf3 c6 25.Qf4 b5 26.Kf1 Re8 27.Rxe8+ Nxe8=** Endgame KQB-KQN **28.Ke2 Kf8 29.Kd1 Qe7 30.Qb8** Threatens to win with Bf5. **30...Qc7 31.Qa8**
[31.Qxc7 simplifies Nxc7 32.Kc2 Ke7 33.b3]
31...Ke7 32.Ke1 Qd6 33.Qa7+ Qd7 34.Qb6 Qe6+ 35.Kd1 Qg4+ 36.f3 Qc8 37.Kc2 Qc7 38.Qc5+ Kf6 39.f4 Nd6 40.Kb1 Ke6 41.Ka2 Kd7 42.Bc2 Qb7 43.g4 Kc7 44.Bd3 Qc8 45.Qa7+ Nb7 46.Bf5 Qe8 47.Bh7 Qe2 48.Bf5 Qc4+ 49.Kb1



g6! 50.hxg6 fxg6 51.Bxg6 Qf1+ 52.Ka2 Qc4+ 53.Kb1 Qf1+ 54.Ka2 Qxf4 55.Bf5 Qd6 56.Qa6 Qd8
[56...Qf8 57.Bd7 Qf6 58.Bf5 Qf8]
57.Bh7
[57.Ka1 looks sharper. Qf8 58.Be6 Qf1+ 59.Ka2]
57...Qb8 58.Kb1 Qc8 59.Bf5 Qf8 60.Ka2 Qb8 61.Kb1 Qe8 62.Ka1 Nd6 63.Qa7+ Nb7 64.Qa6 Qf8 65.Ka2 Qb8 66.Kb1 Qg8 67.Ka2 Qf8 68.Bg6 Qg8 69.Bf5 Qf8 70.Kb1 Qd8 71.Ka2 Qg8



72.Bd7! Decoy **72...Kxd7 73.Qxb7+** KQ-KQ **73...Kd6 74.Qb6 Qe8 75.Qa7 Qe2 76.Qb8+ Kd7 77.Qb7+ Kd6 78.Qb8+ Kd7 79.Qa7+ Kc8 80.Qa8+ Kd7 81.Qb7+ Kd6** A balanced but interesting game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.00 (flawless) **82.Qb8+**
½-½

33 **C67**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2739**
■ **Wei,Yi** **2755**
Chessable Masters Play In blitz (8)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Ne8 10.Nd5** Black is weak on the light squares **10...Bd6 11.Re1 c6 12.Ne3 Be7 13.c4 Nc7 14.d4 d5 15.cxd5 Nxd5 16.Nxd5 cxd5 17.Qb3N**

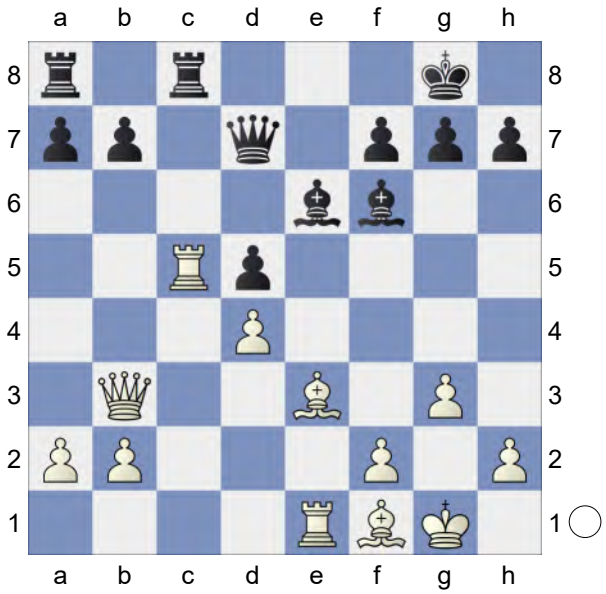
[17.Bf4

A) 17...Bf6 18.Be5 Bxe5 19.Rxe5 Re8 20.Rxe8+ Qxe8 21.Qb3 *(21.Rc1 Bd7 22.Qb3 Bc6 23.Qb4* Overview *)* 21...Qc6 22.Bb5 Qb6 23.Qxd5 a6 24.Bd3 Be6 25.Qe4 g6 26.d5 Bf5 27.Qe2 Bxd3 28.Qxd3 Qxb2 29.Re1 Rd8 30.d6 Rd7 31.g3 Qf6 32.Rd1 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2850)-Caruana,F (2787) London Classic 7th 2015 (2);

B) 17...Be6 18.Qb3 Bf6 19.Be5 Bxe5 20.Rxe5 Qd7 21.Rae1 g6 22.h4 a6 23.h5 Rfe8 24.Qe3 Qd6 25.Qf4 Qf8 26.g3 Bd7 27.Bg2 Bc6 28.h6 Rxe5 29.Rxe5 Rd8 30.g4 Rd6 31.Qe3 Rd8 1-0 Areshchenko,A-Bacrot,E 2nd Porticcio Open 2015 (9.1)]

17...Bf6 18.Be3 Qd6 19.Rac1 Be6 20.g3 Qd7 21.Rc5 Rfc8

(Diagram)



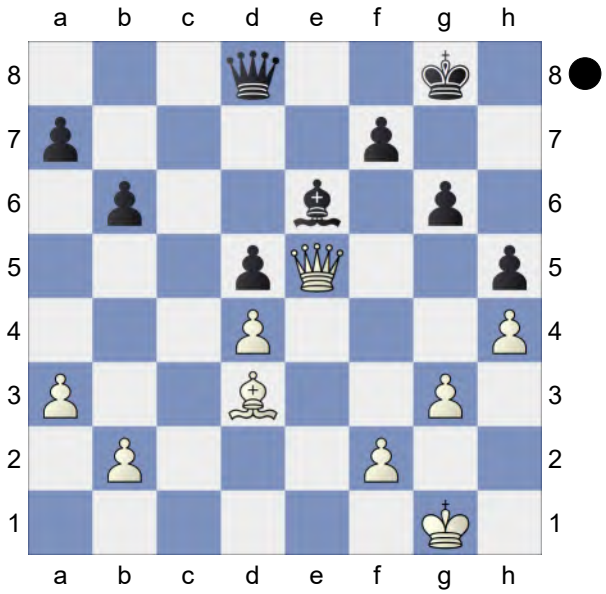
And now ...Rc8xc5 would win. **22.Rec1 Rxc5 23.Rxc5 b6 24.Rc3 Rc8 25.h4 g6 26.a3 Kg7 27.Qc2 Rxc3 28.Qxc3 Kg8 29.Bh6 Qc8 30.Qe3 Qc7**

[30...Qc2 seems wilder. 31.Qf4 Bg7 32.Qb8+ Qc8]

31.Bd3 Qd6 32.Bf4 Qd8 The position is equal. **33.Be5 h5 34.Qf4**

[34.Bxf6 simplifies Qxf6 35.Qg5 Qxg5 36.hxg5 Kg7 37.Ba6]

34...Bxe5 35.Qxe5=

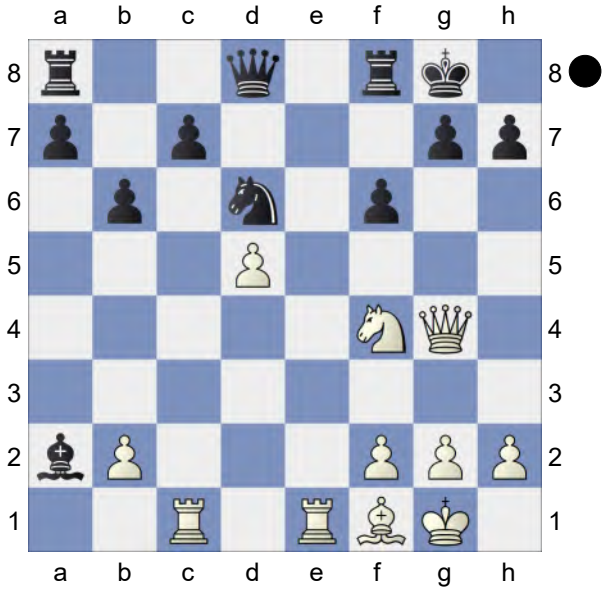


Endgame and Bd3xg6! should not be overlooked. KQB-KQB **35...Qd7 36.Kg2**

Bh3+ 37.Kg1 Bg4 38.Kg2 Bh3+ 39.Kg1 Bg4 40.Kg2 Bh3+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) / Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

34 **C67**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2802**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Ne8 10.c4 Bf6 11.Re1 d5** White is slightly better. **12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Be3! Qd8N**
[13...Be6 14.Nc3 Qd7 15.d5 Bf5 16.Qb3 Nd6 17.Rac1 a6 18.Na4 Ne4 19.f3 Nd6 20.Nc5 Qc8 21.Bf4 Rd8 22.Kh1 h6 23.Bxd6 Rxd6 24.Nxb7 Rb6 25.Qxb6 cxb6 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.Re8+ Kh7 28.Nd6 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2750)-So,W (2776) 10th Chess 2022 (7.2)]
[13...Qa5 14.Nc3 Be6 15.Ne4 Rd8 16.Nc5 Bd5 17.b4 Qa3 18.Qc2 a5 19.b5 b6 20.Nd3 Be4 21.Rad1 Bf5 22.Bc1 Qd6 23.Qe2 Bxd3 24.Rxd3 Qd7 25.a4 Nd6 26.Bf4 Rfe8 27.Be5 c5 28.Qd1 1-0 Kurpnieks,V (2206)-Campani,P (2203) corr GER - LAT 2023]
14.Nc3 Be6 15.Ne4 0.15/18
[15.d5!± 0.58/18 is superior. Bf5 16.Bf4]
15...Be7 16.Bf4 Nf6 17.Nc5 Bd5 18.Rc1 Bd6 19.Be5 Ne8 0.95/17
[Better is 19...Re8± 0.33/18]
20.Qg4 0.27/18 White is more active.
[20.Bd3± 0.95/17]
20...b6!= 21.Nd3
[Not 21.Nd7? f5-+]
21...Bxa2 22.Nf4 f6? 3.18/22
A mistake that costs the game.
[22...a5= 0.10/19]
23.Bxd6+- Nxd6 24.d5



aiming for Nf4-e6. **24...Qc8 25.Qg3**
[Less strong is 25.Ne6 Rf7±]
25...Qd8 6.57/19
[⌓25...b5 4.12/18 26.b3 a5]
26.Ne6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.63
1-0

35 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3049**
■ **Nikitosik-ai** **2999**
Rapid 08.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 15min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Be7 10.Nc3 Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4** The position is equal. **12.Be3**

[12.f4 Bd7 13.Bd2 Kc8 14.Be1 Be7 15.f5 Bc5+ 16.Bf2 Bb4 17.g4 Re8 18.Bg3 Bc5+ 19.Kh2 Bd4 20.Rae1 b6 21.Nd1 Kb7 22.c3 Bc5 23.Nf2 Be7 24.e6 fxe6 25.fxe6 Bc8 26.Nd3 Bf6 ½-½ Aronian,L (2765)-Caruana,F (2832) 10th Classic 2018 (2.3)]

12...Bd7N Black is weak on the dark squares

[12...h5 13.Rad1+ *(13.f3 Bf5 14.g4 Bxc2 15.Rac1 Bh7 16.f4 Re8 17.Rcd1+ Kc8 18.Bf2 Be7 19.f5 b6 20.Bg3 Kb7 21.Kg2 Rad8 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Rd1 Rxd1 24.Nxd1 c5 25.Kf3 Kc6 26.Ne3 hxg4+ 27.hxg4 b5* ½-½ Marosi,G (2743)-C 06/32 (2745) 2009 (3.2) *)* 13...Ke8 14.Ne2

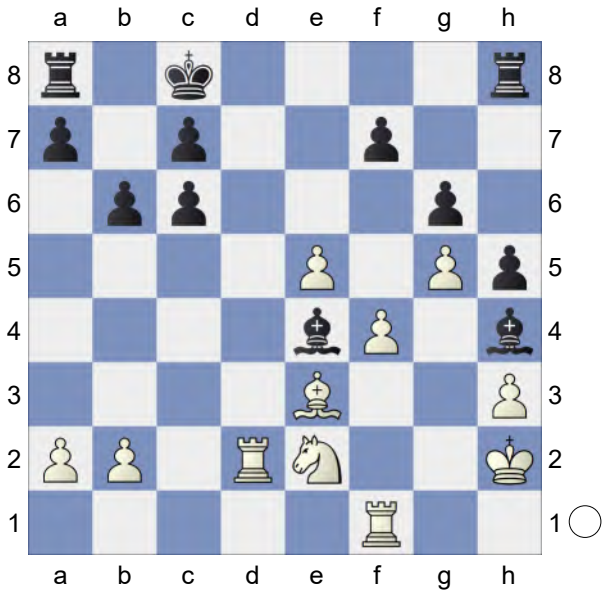
A) 14...Be7 15.f4 *(15.Rfe1 a6 16.Bf4 g5 17.Be3 Bf5 18.Nd4 Bg6 19.e6 Rd8 20.exf7+ Kxf7 21.Nf3 Bxc2 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Nxg5+ Kf6 24.Ne6 Rd1 25.Bg5+ Kf7 26.Rxd1 Bxd1 27.Bxe7 Kxe6 28.Bd8 Kd6 29.f3 c5* ½-½ Vachier Lagrave,M (2788)-Eljanov,P (2765) Norway Chess 4th 2016 (3) *)* 15...f5 16.Nd4 Kf7 17.a4 a6 18.a5 Rd8 ½-½ Schmidt, A (2461)-Vins,K (2473) Elgoibar 23rd 2013;

B) 14...b6 15.a4 c5 16.Nc3 Bf5 17.Nb5 Bd8 18.Rd2 a6 19.Nc3 h4 20.a5 Rh5 21.Rfd1 Bh7 22.Nd5 Be4 23.c4 Rb8 24.f4 Rf5 25.Nc3 Bb7 26.axb6 cxb6 27.Rd6 9 Chapter C50-Games Chapter C50 Game]

13.Rad1 Kc8! 14.f4 b6 15.Kh2 g6 16.g4 next f5 is good for White. **16...h5?** 1.61/26

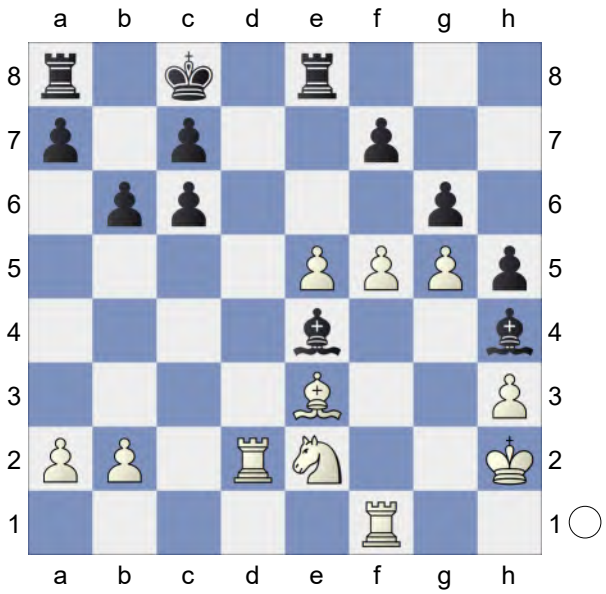
[16...Re8= 0.09/19 and Black is okay.]

17.g5+- Bf5 18.Ne2! Bxc2 19.Rd2 Be4



20.f5! Re8

[20...gxf5 21.Rf4]



21.e6 Deflection **21...fxe6**

[21...Bxf5? 22.exf7 Rxe3 23.f8Q++- *(23.f8B? Rxh3+ 24.Kg2 Bxg5-+)*]

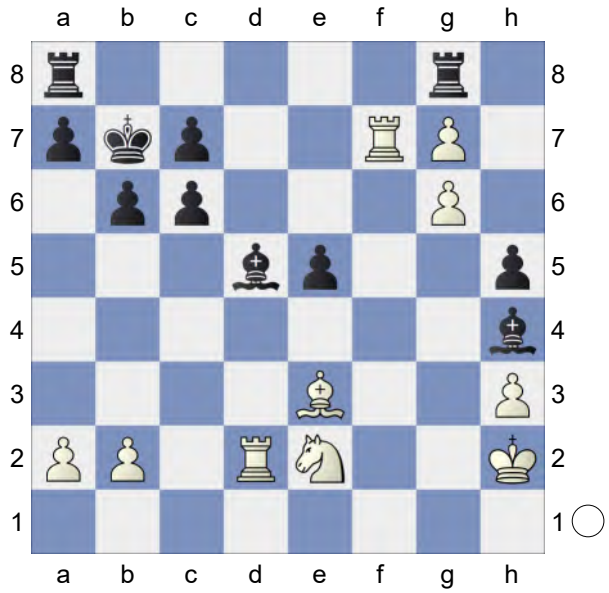
[21...f6 22.fxg6]

22.fxg6

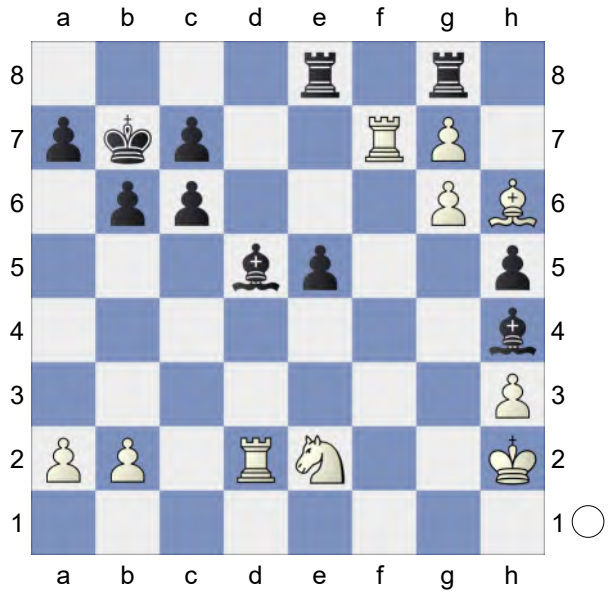
[22.Rf4 exf5 23.Rxh4 Bf3∓]

22...e5 Repels Rd4 **23.g7** White has strong compensation. **23...Rg8 24.Rf7**

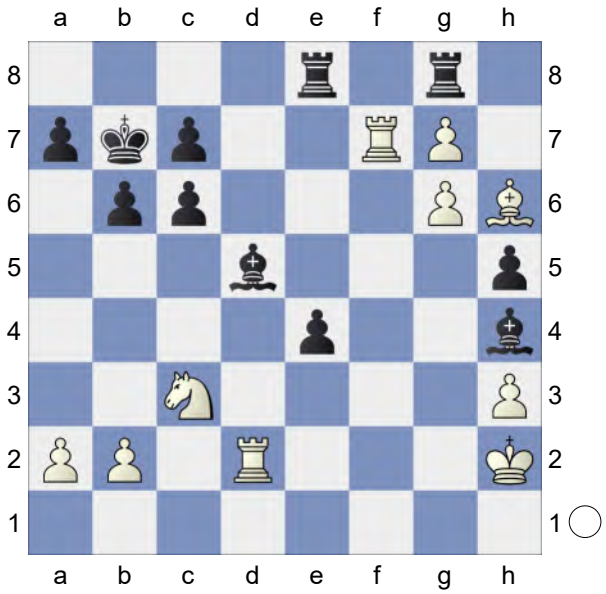
White is more active. **24...Bd5 25.g6**
[25.Rxd5?! cxd5 26.Ng3 d4± *(26...Bxg3+ 27.Kxg3 d4 28.Bc1±)*]
[25.Rf8+ Kb7 26.Rf5 Rxg7 *(26...Bxa2 27.Nc3∓)* 27.Rxe5 Be1= *(27...Bxa2 28.Rd4∓)*]
25...Kb7 2.68/25
[25...Be4± 1.56/25]



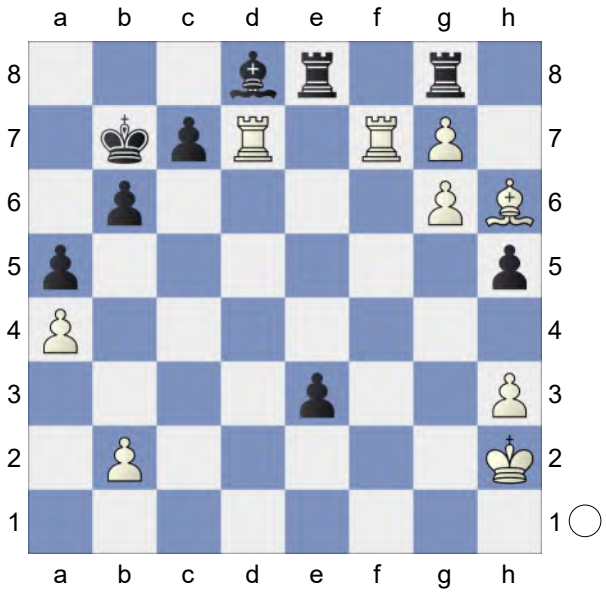
26.Bh6! Rae8
[26...Rad8 27.Rd1]



27.Nc3! e4

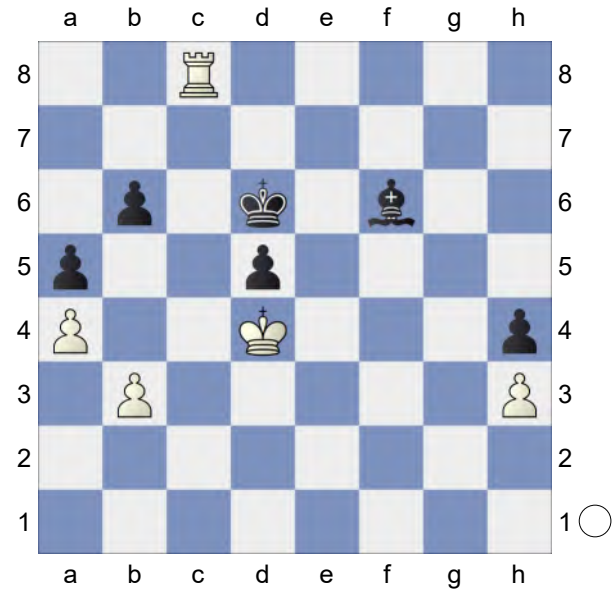


28.a4 1.41/23 **a5** 2.16/24
[28...e3± 1.41/23 29.Re2 Bc4]
29.Nxd5 cxd5 30.Rxd5 e3 Threatens to win with ...e2. **31.Rdd7!**
[Inferior is 31.Rxh5 e2 32.Bd2 *(32.Rxh4? too greedy. e1Q-+)* 32...Be7∓]
31...Bd8



32.Bxe3 Deflection **32...Rxe3 33.Rf8 Re2+ 34.Kh1 Re1+ 35.Kh2?** -0.01/20
[35.Kg2+- 2.17/31 Re8 36.Rdf7 Rxg7 37.Rxe8 Rxg6+ 38.Kf1]
35...Re2+= 36.Kg1 Re8 37.Rdf7 Rxg7

38.Rxe8 Rxg6++- Endgame KRR-KRB **39.Kf1 Rd6 40.Re3 h4 41.Ke2 Rc6 42.b3 Rc2+ 43.Kd1 Rc6** 2.50/27
[⌓43...Rc5 1.98/26 44.Re4 Rd5+ 45.Kc2 Rd6]
44.Rd3 Bf6 45.Rh7 Rc5 46.Rh6 Rf5 47.Ke2 Kc8 48.Rf3 Re5+ 49.Kd3 Bg5 50.Rh5 Kd7 51.Rh7+ Kd6 52.Rhf7 Rd5+ 53.Ke2 Rd2+ 54.Ke1 Rd5 4.10/29
[⌓54...Rc2 2.73/21 55.Rg7 Rc5 56.Rg6+ Kd7]
55.R3f5 c6 56.Rxd5+ cxd5 KR-KB **57.Ke2 Kc5 58.Kd3 Bd8 59.Kc3 Bg5 60.Rf8 Be7 61.Rc8+ Kd6 62.Kd3 Kd7 63.Rc1 Kd6 64.Rc8?** -0.01/30
[64.Rc2+- 4.44/30 Bf6 65.Rf2]
64...Bg5? 4.63/32
[64...Kd7!= -0.01/30 65.Rh8 Kc6]
65.Kd4 and Rf8 should not be overlooked **65...Bf6+**



66.Ke3! Bg5+ 67.Kd3 Bf4 68.Rg8 Kc5 69.Rg4 Bg3 70.Ke2 Kc6 71.b4 axb4 72.Rxb4 Kc5 73.Rg4 Kc6 74.Rg6+ Kb7 5.93/36
[74...Kc5 4.11/31 was worth a try. 75.Rh6 d4]
75.Kd3 Bf2 6.88/32
[⌓75...Ka6 4.12/32 76.Kd4 Ka5 77.Kxd5 b5 78.axb5 Kxb5]
76.Rf6 Bg3 77.Kd4 Ka6 78.Kxd5 Ka5 79.Kc4 Be1 80.Re6 Bb4 81.Re4 Be1 82.Re5+ Ka6 83.Rxe1 KR-KPP **83...Ka5 84.Re4 Ka6 85.Kb4 Ka7 86.Kb5** White threatens Re7+ and mate. **86...Kb7 87.Re7+ Ka8 88.Rg7** 9.95/5
[⌓88.Kxb6 #2/6 Kb8 89.Re8#]
88...Kb8 89.Kc6 Ka8 90.Rb7 7.78/5
[⌓90.Kxb6 #2/6 Kb8 91.Rg8#]
90...b5 91.a5 White mates. **91...b4 92.Kb6 b3 93.Rf7 Kb8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) / Black=0.18 (very precise) **94.Rf8#**
1-0

36 **C67**
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar** **2801**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2803**
Tata Steel-A 87th (6) 24.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** The main line 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. Die Hauptvariante 10...Te8 punktet besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Rxe8+ Nxe8 12.c3 d5 13.Bd3 g6 14.Nd2 c6 15.Nf3 Ng7 16.Bf4 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Qd2N**
[18.Qe2 Qe8 19.Re1 Ng7 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Qe6 22.Nd3 Re8 23.Qxe6 Rxe6 24.Rxe6 Nxe6 ½-½ Macovei,A (2476)-Brodsky,D (2538) US Masters op 2024 (7)]
18...Qf8 19.Re1 Re8 20.Rxe8 Qxe8 21.Qe1 Qxe1+ 22.Nxe1= Endgame KBN-KBN **22...Ng7N**
[22...Be7 23.Nd3 Ng7 24.g4 Ne6

25.Bb8 ½-½ Zubov,A (2607)-Bacrot,E (2711) EU-ch 16th Jerusalem 2015 (3)]

23.Kf1 Ne6 24.Be3 h5 25.Ke2 The position is equal. **25...Kf8 26.Nd3 Ke7 27.Ne1 Bg7 28.Nd3 Bf6 29.Ne1 Bg7 30.Nd3 Bf6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)

½-½

37 **C67**

□ **ArasanX** **3042**

■ **Worldwide1** **3034**

Rapid 28.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 15min+5sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 h6 11.b3 c5 12.Bb2 Nd4 13.Nxd4 cxd4 14.Ne4 c5! 15.c3 dxc3 16.Bxc3 Rg8N**

[16...a5 17.Rad1 Kc7 18.f4 a4 19.Nd6 Bxd6 20.exd6+ Kb6 21.b4 cxb4 22.Bxb4 Rhe8 23.Rf2 Rac8 24.Rd4 Ka6 25.a3 b5 26.Rd5 f6 27.Rd3 Bf5 28.Rg3 g6 29.Rd2 Re4 30.Kh2 Rd8 31.Rc3 Hovhannisyan,R (2591)-Sadhwani,R (2611) Chennai 2022 CBM 210 [Hovhannisyan,Robert] 1-0 (51)]

17.f4 Kc7 18.Rad1 Bc6 19.Rfe1 Re8 20.f5 Be7 21.Nd6 Bxd6 22.Rxd6

[Much worse is 22.exd6+ Kd7∓]

22...Rd8! 23.Rxd8 Kxd8± 0.77/20 Endgame KRB-KRB

[23...Rxd8± 0.31/21 24.e6 f6]

24.Rd1+ Kc8 25.Re1 0.01/19 Inhibits Be4.

[25.g4± 0.42/22 is superior.]

25...Kd8!= 26.Rd1+ -0.01/19

[26.g4± 0.72/20]

26...Kc8! 27.e6 fxe6 28.fxe6 Re8 29.Re1 0.47/20 &Bianco is more active.

[Reject 29.Bxg7?! Rxe6 30.Rd2 h5=]

[29.Rd6± 0.79/22]

29...Re7!± 30.Re5! b6 31.b4! Bb5 32.bxc5 Bc4 33.cxb6 axb6 White is slightly better. **34.a3 g6 35.Re4 Bd5 36.Rd4!** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) / Black=0.01 (flawless)

1-0

38 **C65**

□ **RipTorn** **3066**

■ **YoBot_v2** **3070**

Rapid 27.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

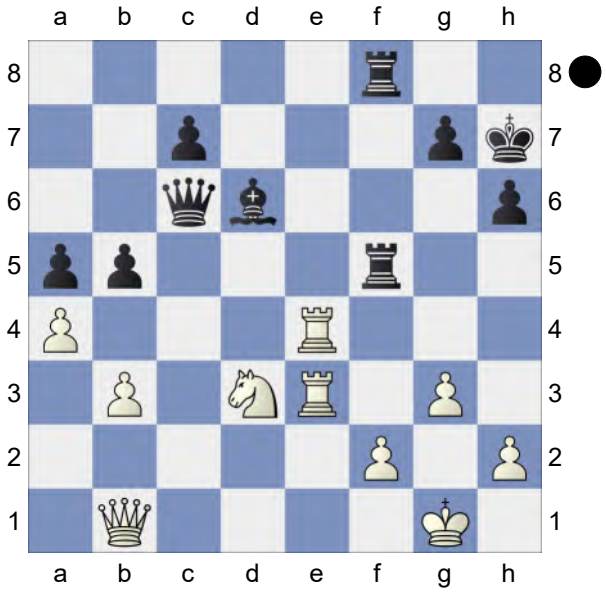
Blitz 10min C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Nd7 7.c3 0-0 8.Re1 h6 9.d4N**

[9.Nbd2 Re8 10.Nf1 a5 11.Ng3 a4 12.h3 Nf8 13.Qc2 Qf6 14.Qe2 Ng6 15.Nh5 Qd6 16.Bd2 Bb6 17.d4 exd4 18.cxd4 f5 19.Ng3 Bd7 20.Qc4+ Be6 21.Qc2 fxe4 22.Rxe4 Bd7 23.Rae1 Rxe4 Maghsoodloo,P (2712)-Vidit,S (2739) Chennai 2024 [TA] 1-0 (45)]

9...Bd6 10.Nbd2 exd4 11.cxd4 Nb6 12.Nf1 f5 13.Qb3+ Kh7 14.Ng3 fxe4 15.Rxe4 Qf6 16.Bd2 Qf7 17.Qe3 Nc4 18.Qe2 Nxd2 19.Nxd2 Bd7 20.Nc4 Qd5 21.Ne5 Bf5 22.Nxf5 Rxf5 23.g3

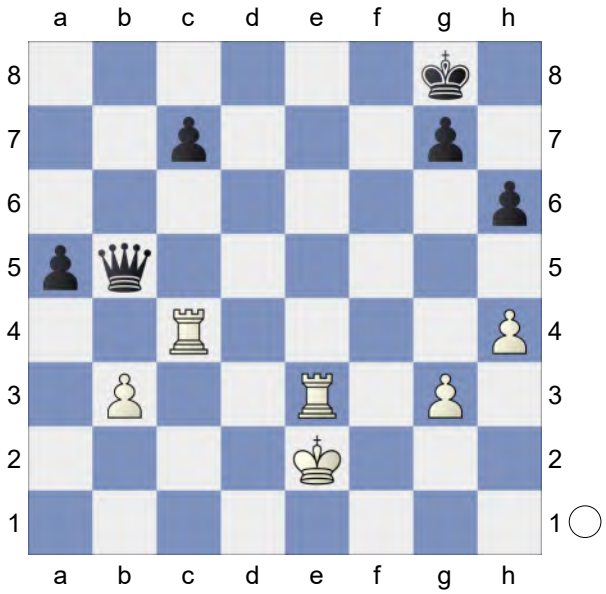
[Much weaker is 23.Qg4 Raf8 24.Rf1 Bxe5 25.dxe5 Rxe5 26.Rxe5

Qxe5∓]
23...Raf8 24.Nd3 c5 25.dxc5 Bxc5 26.Rf1 The position is equal. **26...Bd6**
[Much less strong is 26...Qxa2 27.g4 Rd5 28.Qc2 Rxd3 29.Qxd3±]
27.b3 b5 28.Re1 Qc6 29.Qd1
[29.f4 is more complex. a5 30.Ne5 Qd5 31.Rd1]
29...Kg8 30.R1e3 a5 31.a4 Kh7 32.Qb1



Threatens to win with g4. **32...Kh8 33.Qd1**
[33.Qb2 seems wilder. Rb8 34.Rg4 Rf6 35.Qa2]
33...Kg8 34.Qe2 Kh7 35.Qd1 Kg8 36.Qd2 Kh7 37.Rd4 Kg8 38.Rde4 Kh7 39.Rd4 Kg8 40.h4 Bc5 41.axb5 Qxb5 42.Nxc5 Rxf2 43.Qxf2 Rxf2 44.Kxf2 Qxc5= Endgame KQ-KRR
45.Rc4 Qb6 46.Ke2 Qb5

(Diagram)



And now ...a4! would win. **47.Ke1 c6 48.Rec3 Qe5+ 49.Kf2 Qf5+ 50.Ke3 Qe5+ 51.Kd2 Qd5+ 52.Ke1 Qe6+ 53.Kf2 Qf5+ 54.Ke2 Qe5+ 55.Kd1 Qd5+ 56.Ke1 Qh1+ 57.Kf2 Qh2+ 58.Kf3 Qh1+ 59.Kf2 Qh2+ 60.Kf3 Qh1+ 61.Ke2 Qg2+ 62.Ke1 Qg1+ 63.Ke2 Qg2+ 64.Ke1 Qg1+ 65.Kd2 Qg2+ 66.Ke1** An even fight not without its subleties. Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

39	**C67**
□ **Wei,Yi**	**2751**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano**	**2803**
Tata Steel-A 87th (1)	18.01.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Kramnik used to be a difficult opponent for Magnus, but while the balance had obviously changed, 2016 had become an extreme, the score being 7-0 with no draws before this game! Only 1 was classical chess, but even so, quite

an extraordinary situation between the world ranking nos. 1 and 2! **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. 10...Te8 punktet besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Nd2**

[14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Nf1 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Ne3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qd7 20.Re1 c6 21.Bh6 Bg7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qe7 Rd8 24.h4 h5 25.Re3 b6 26.Qe5+ Kg8 27.Kh2 a5 28.f3 a4 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2855)-Kramnik,V (2812) Leuven GCT blitz 2016 (14)]

14...c6 15.Qe3 g6N

[15...Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 18.Qg3 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qb7 30.Bc4 1-0 Lou,Y (2459)-Zhao,J (2535) TCh-CHN Div A Finals 2024 (2.1)]

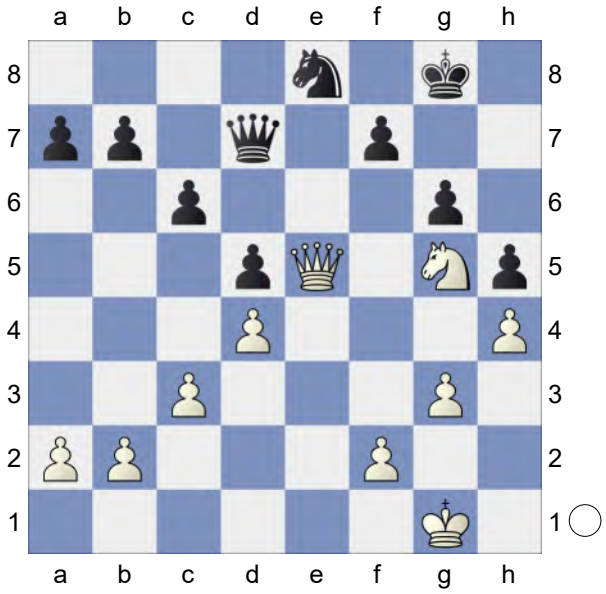
16.Re1 Ng7 17.Nf3 Bf5 Black is weak on the dark squares **18.h3 h5 19.Be5N**

[19.Ne5 g5 20.Bh2 Bxe5! 21.Qxe5 f6 22.Qe2 Qf8 23.Qd2 Re8 24.Rc1 Qe7 25.b3 Bg6 26.c4 Bf7! 27.Bd3 0.55/20 Inhibits Ng7-f5. *(27.h4= 0.01/22)* 27...Qe6± 28.c5 -0.07/21 ;½-½ Villaescusa Navalon,M (2306)-Evtyukhin,S (2268) Champion's League 2017/C3 email [3] *(Better is 28.h4!± 0.55/20 gxh4 29.Qh6)*]

19...Ne6 20.Bd3 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 Kg7 22.h4 Bxe5 23.Rxe5 Qd7 24.Ng5 Nc7 and ...f7-f6 would now be decisive

[24...Nxg5 simplifies 25.hxg5 Kf8 26.Qe3 Re8]

25.Qe3 Re8 Against Re5-e7. The position is equal. **26.g3 Kg8 27.Qf4 Rxe5 28.Qxe5 Ne8**



29.Nh3! Deflection **29...Nd6 30.Nf4 Qd8 31.Kg2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

40 **C65**
□ **ToromBot** **3068**
■ **YoBot_v2** **3062**
Rapid 26.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.Nc4 Nd7 8.Ne3**

[8.0-0 Re8 9.Bd2 Bd6 10.Bc3 c5 11.a4 f6 12.Nh4 Nf8 13.g3 Bh3 14.Ng2 Qd7 15.f4 exf4 16.gxf4 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 f5 18.e5 Qc6+ 19.Qf3 Qxf3+ 20.Kxf3 Be7 21.Ne3 g6 22.Rh1 Red8 Chapter,W (2753)-Hanke,L (2783) corr 2017 200 Traps In The Opening [Kozlov] ½-½ (35)]

[8.Be3 Bd6 9.Qe2 c5 10.c3 Re8 11.a4 Bf8 12.0-0 b6 13.Nfd2 Bb7 14.f4 Qe7 15.f5 f6 16.Rf3 Rad8 17.Rh3 Nb8 18.Rf1 h6 19.Rff3 Qd7 20.Bf2 Qxa4 21.Rfg3 Kf7 22.Qh5+ Ke7 Sanchez Lopez,J (2013)-Vela Frago,A (2259) Salobrena 2023 0-1 (47)]

8...a5N

[8...Re8 9.g4 Bxe3 *(9...Bb4+ 10.Bd2 a5 11.h4 Nf8 12.a3 Bc5 13.Nf5 f6 14.Be3 Ne6 15.Qd2 Bf8 16.h5 h6 17.N3h4 Ng5 18.f3 Be6 19.Qf2 Bf7 20.Kf1 a4 21.Kg2 c5 22.Bxc5 Bxc5 23.Qxc5 Ne6 24.Qe3* Chapter-Games Game 2 (37)) 10.Bxe3 Nf8 11.Rg1 Qd6 12.Qd2 a5 13.Nh4 Ne6 14.Nf5 Qb4 15.c3 Qb5 16.0-0-0 c5 17.f4 exf4 18.Bxf4 a4 19.a3 Qc6 20.Be5 Ra6 21.Rdf1 Qd7 22.Nh6+ gxh6 23.Qxh6 S,L (2611)-Anton Guijarro,D (2674) Khanty-Mansiysk (m/3-rapid) 142/116 2019 Chess Informant 142 [Abramovic, Bosko] ½-½ (55) f6 24.Bxf6 Qxd3 25.Rf5 Qxe4 26.Rgf1 Qd3 27.Rg5+ Kf7 28.Qh5+ Kf8 29.Bg7+ Ke7 30.Qf7+ Kd6 31.Rd1 Qxd1+ 32.Kxd1 Nxg5 33.Qxe8 Bxg4+ 34.Kc1 Ne6 35.Bf6 c4 36.Be7+ Ke5 37.Qb5+ Kf4 38.Qxc4+ Chapter C50-Games Game 8 (55)]

9.g4 Bd6 10.a4 Nc5 11.Bd2 Ne6 12.Nf5 f6 13.h4 Bb4 14.c3 Bc5 15.Qc2 b5 16.h5 Re8 17.Rg1

[17.Ke2 with more complications. Qd7 18.axb5 cxb5 19.b4]

17...h6 Inhibits g5. **18.0-0-0 Bf8 19.Be3 Qd7 20.d4 exd4 21.e5 Qf7 22.cxd4** Strongly threatening exf6. **22...Ng5 23.Nxg5**

[23.Qxc6? Ra6 24.Qc2 Nxf3-+]

23...fxg5 24.f4

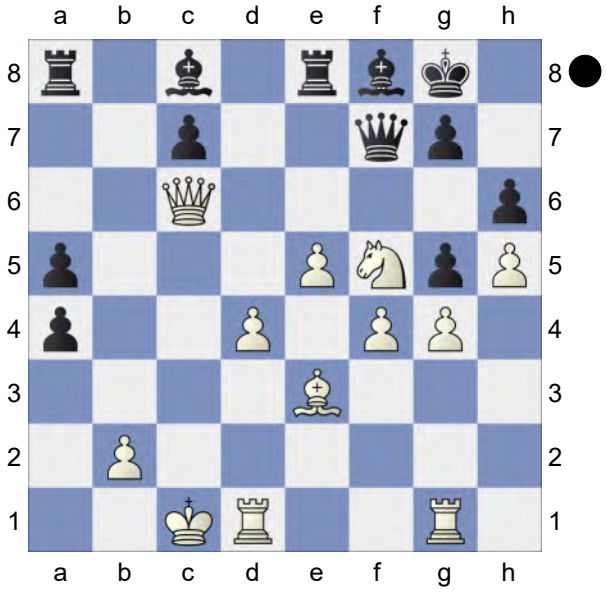
[24.Rdf1!?]

24...bxa4 0.35/19

[24...gxf4= -0.10/20 25.Rdf1 *(25.Bxf4 bxa4 26.Qxa4 Rb8∓)* 25...bxa4]

25.fxg5±

[25.Qxc6?



a3! 26.d5 *(26.Qxa8? Qc4+ 27.Kb1 Bxf5+ 28.gxf5 Rxa8-+)* 26...Bxf5 27.gxf5 gxf4-+]

25...a3 ...Rb8 is the strong threat.

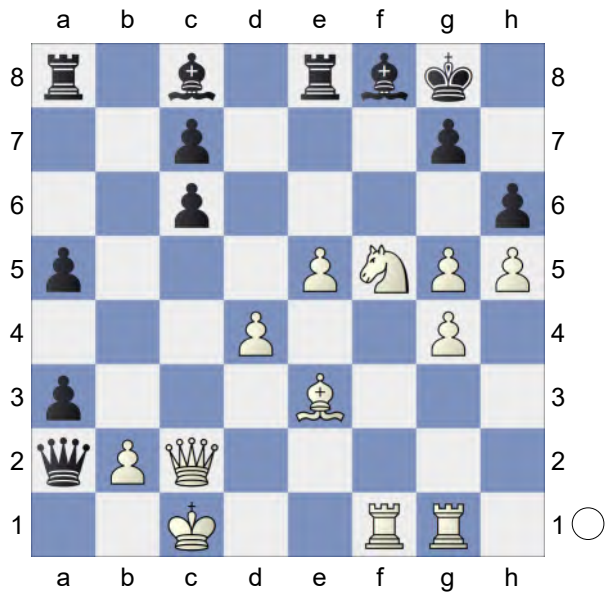
26.Rdf1 -0.29/16

[26.gxh6± 0.45/18 a2 27.Kd2 gxh6 28.Bxh6]

26...Qa2

[26...Bxf5!? 27.Rxf5 Qd5 28.gxh6 a2=]

(Diagram)

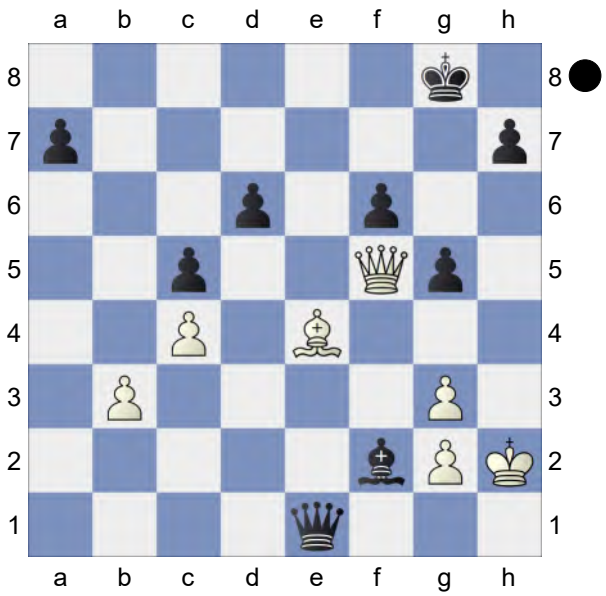


White must now prevent ...axb2+.
27.Nxh6+! The position is equal.
27...Kh8
[27...gxh6!? 28.Qg6+ *(28.gxh6? axb2+ 29.Kd1 b1Q+-+)* 28...Kh8 29.Rxf8+ Rxf8 30.Qxh6+ Kg8 31.Qg6+ Kh8 32.Qh6+ Kg8 33.Qg6+ Kh8 34.Qh6+=]
28.Nf7+ Kg8 29.Nh6+ Kh8
[29...gxh6!? 30.Qg6+ *(30.gxh6? axb2+ 31.Kd2 Bb4+ 32.Kd3 Ba6+ 33.Ke4 Bxf1-+)* 30...Kh8 31.Rxf8+ Rxf8 32.Qxh6+ Kg8 33.Qg6+ Kh8 34.Qh6+ Kg8 35.Qg6+ Kh8 36.Qh6+=]
30.Nf7+ Kg8 Hoping for ...axb2+.
31.Nh6+! An interesting draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) / Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

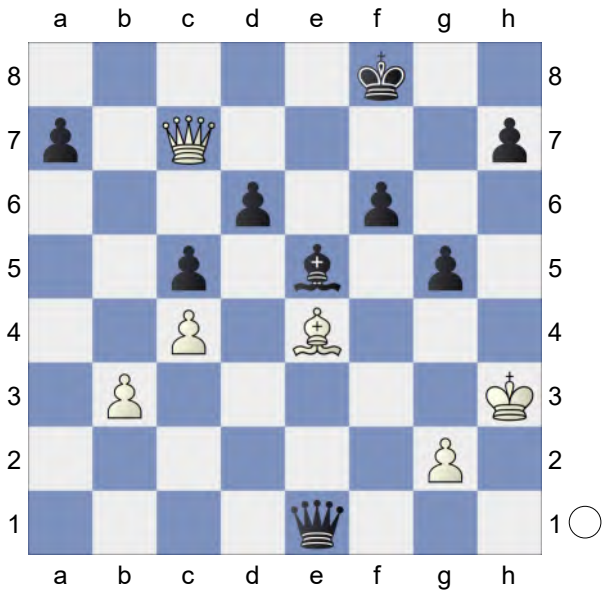
41 **C67**
□ **mayhem23111** **3065**
■ **RipTorn** **3067**
Rapid 24.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re2 b6 11.Re1 Bb7 12.Bf4 Nf5 13.c3 Re8 14.Nd2 Rxe1**
[14...d6 feels hotter. 15.Qg4 g6 16.Bd3 h5]
15.Qxe1 g5 16.Bg3 Nxg3 17.hxg3 c5 0.92/20
[17...d5± 0.41/17]
18.dxc5± bxc5 19.Ne4 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rb8 21.Rd1 0.30/20 &Bianco is more active.
[21.Rb1± 0.65/21 might be stronger.]
21...Rxb2= 22.Qf5
[Reject 22.Bd3 Bxc3 23.Qxh7+ Kf8∓]
22...d6 23.Rd3! Strongly threatening Rf3. **23...Rb6N**
[Don't do 23...Rxa2 24.Rf3±]
[23...Kg7 24.Rf3 1 Chapter 16 Berlin-10...b6 Spanish for White part]
24.c4 Bd4 25.Rf3 Qe7⇄ Black is fighting back **26.Bd3 f6 27.Bc2 Rb2 28.Rb3 Rxb3 29.axb3 Qe1+** -0.36/5
[29...Qe2= 0.01/23 is superior.]
30.Kh2∓ Bxf2 The position is equal.
31.Be4

(Diagram)



White threatens Qe6+ and mate. **31...Bxg3+ 32.Kh3** Threatening mate with Qe6+. **32...Be5 33.Qc8+ Kg7 34.Qc7+ Kf8**

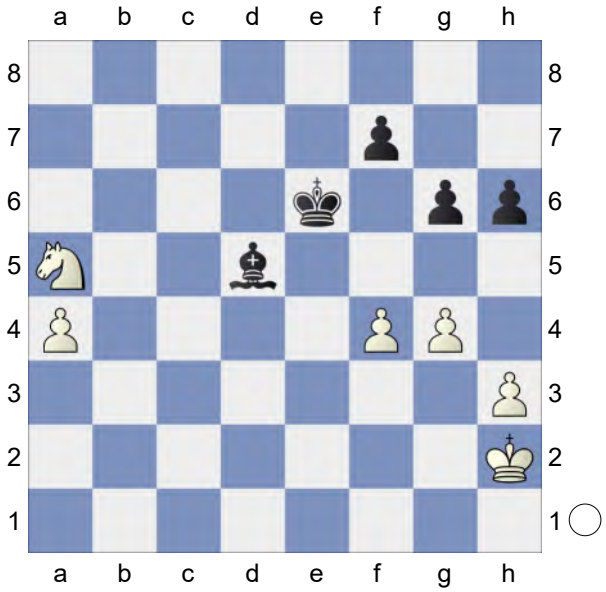


35.Qd8+ Kf7 36.Qd7+ Kf8 37.Qd8+ Kf7 38.Qd7+ Kf8 39.Qd8+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) / Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

42 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3036**
■ **RipSockeye** **3067**
Rapid 23.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

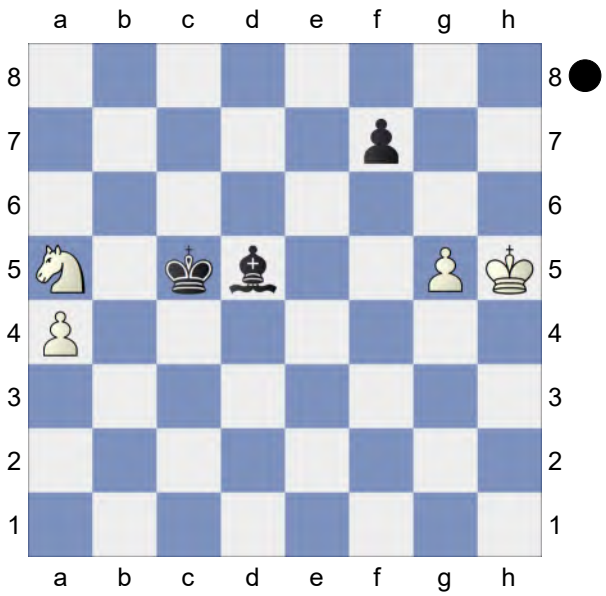
Blitz 10min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Bf4 d5 14.Nd2 Bf5**
[14...c6 15.a4 *(15.Qe3 Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 18.Qg3 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qb7* Lou,Y (2459)-Zhao,J (2535) Shaoxing 2024 1-0 (58)*)* 15...a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 Carlsen,M (2868)-Topalov,V (2793) Stavanger 2013 CBM 155 [Marin,Mihail] ½-½ (51)]
15.Qe2 c6 16.Re1N
[16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Re1 a5 20.Nc5 Nxc5 21.Qe8+ 1-0 (21) Paravyan,D (2612)-Lazavik,D (2553) Chess.com INT 2023]
16...Nd6 17.Nf3 h6 18.h3 a5 19.a4 Nc4 20.b3 Nd6 21.Qb2 Be7 22.Ne5 Bg5 23.Bxg5 Qxg5 24.Qa3 Ne4 25.Re3 Qf6 26.Qb2 c5 27.Nf3 b6 28.Bd3 Rd8 29.Qc2 Black should prevent dxc5. **29...g6 30.dxc5 bxc5 31.g4 Be6 32.Bxe4 dxe4 33.Nd2 Qe7 34.Nxe4 c4 35.bxc4 Bxc4 36.Nd2 Be6 37.Nf3 Qd6 38.Ne5 Kg7** 0.38/23
[38...Qd1+= 0.04/22 39.Qxd1 Rxd1+

40.Kh2 Ra1]
39.Rd3!± Qc7 40.Re3 Qd6 41.Rd3 Inhibits Qd1+. **41...Qc7 42.Rxd8 Qxd8 43.c4** 0.01/20 Inhibits Qd5.
[43.Qd3± 0.38/22 Qxd3 44.Nxd3]
43...Qd4= 44.Nc6 Qxc4
[44...Qa1+ with more complications. 45.Kg2 h5 46.gxh5 Qa3]
45.Qxc4 Bxc4 46.Nxa5 Endgame KB-KN **46...Bd5 47.Kh2 Kf6 48.f4 Ke6**



aiming for ...Kd6. **49.Kg3 g5 50.h4 gxh4+ 51.Kxh4 Kd6 52.g5** -1.05/28
[52.Kh5= 0.00/30 keeps the balance.]
52...hxg5+∓ 53.fxg5
[Avoid the trap 53.Kxg5? Kc5 54.Kf6 Kb6-+]
53...Kc5 54.Kh5

(Diagram)



f6 0.00/29
[54...Kb6!∓ -1.06/29]
55.g6 The position is equal. **55...f5 56.g7 f4** Hoping for ...f3. **57.Kg4 f3** (→ ...f2) **58.Nb3+ Bxb3 59.Kg3 Bd5 60.a5 Kb5 61.a6** Black must now prevent a7. **61...Kxa6 62.g8Q Bxg8 63.Kxf3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

43 **C65**
□ **RipSockeye** **3064**
■ **RaspFish** **3048**
Rapid 23.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 12min C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Nd7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nc4 Re8 9.Bd2 f6**
[9...Bf8 10.b4 f6 11.a4 Nb6 12.Ne3 Be6 13.Qb1 Qd7 14.Rd1 Bf7 15.h3 Rad8 16.Be1 Bh5 17.g4 Bf7 18.c4 c5 19.b5 Nc8 20.Qc2 Re6 21.Kf1 Ne7 22.Nh4 Rd6 23.Ke2 Re6 24.f3

Anand,V (2775)-Kramnik,V (2795) London ENG 2012 [Mikhalevski, V] ½-½ (40)]

10.Nh4 g6N

[10...Bf8 11.Nf5 Nc5 12.Ng3 Ne6 13.Ne3 a5 14.Qb1 a4 15.Rd1 b5 16.c3 c5 17.Be1 c6 18.f3 Nf4 19.Bf2 Be6 20.Qc2 Qc7 21.Ne2 Nxe2+ 22.Qxe2 Qf7 23.a3 Rad8 24.g3 Rd7 25.Kg2 Kuzmin,R (2249)-Gauri,S (2307) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (38) Red8 26.Rd2 g6 27.Nf1 Bb3 28.Be3 h5 29.h4 Kh7 30.Re1 Be7 31.g4 Be6 32.Ng3 Rg8 33.Rf1 f5 34.exf5 gxf5 35.Bf2 f4 36.Ne4 hxg4 37.Nxc5 gxf3+ 38.Kxf3 Bg4+ 0-1 (38) Law,A (2249)-Ryba,W (2307) Kallithea 2023 Inf 73 [John Watson]]

[10...Nf8 11.Be3 Bd6 12.Qf3 Be6 13.Qg3 Kh8 14.Rad1 c5 15.Nxd6 cxd6 16.f4 exf4 17.Rxf4 Qb6 18.b3 Qa5 19.a4 Qc3 20.Rf2 Rad8 21.Rdf1 d5 22.Bd2 8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10.g4_ (2585)-10.00 00 11. ♖e1 ♘b6 12.î€ (2615) Salou ESP 2018 CBM 85 ext [Nickel]]

11.Kh1 Nb6 12.Na5 Bf8 13.a4 Nd7 14.g3 Bg7 15.Nc4 Nf8 16.Ng2 c5 17.Bc3 Ne6 18.Nce3 Qd7 0.30/17

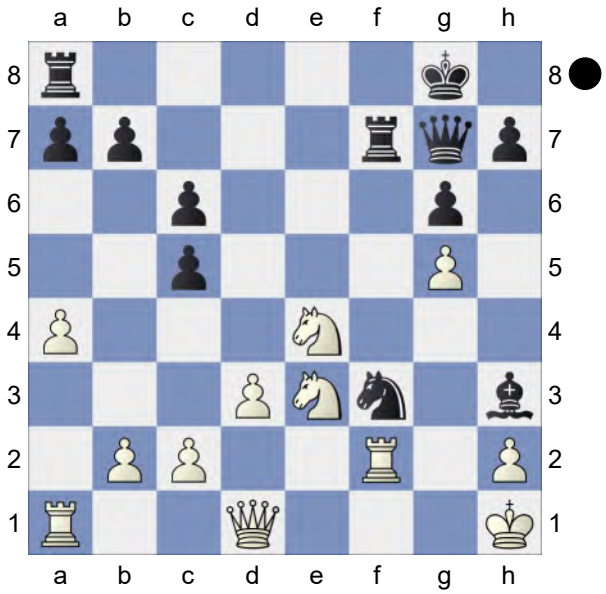
[18...Kh8 -0.18/16 is more appropriate.]

19.f4= exf4 20.Nxf4 The position is equal. **20...f5 21.Bxg7 Qxg7 22.Nfd5 c6 23.Nc3 Nd4 24.Qd2 Re7 25.Rf2 fxe4 26.Nxe4 Bh3! 27.g4** Rg1 is the strong threat. **27...Rf7 28.g5**

[28.Nxc5 Raf8 29.Ne4 Rxf2 30.Nxf2 Qh6∓]

28...Nf3 29.Qd1

(Diagram)



Nxg5! 30.Nxg5 Rxf2 31.Nxh3 Rff8 32.Ng5 aiming for Ne6. **32...Rae8** Against Ne6 **33.Ne4 Qxb2 34.Qg1 c4 35.Nxc4** Pair of Knights!

[35.Rb1 Qd4 36.Ng4 *(36.Rxb7? cxd3 37.cxd3 Qxd3-+)* 36...Qxg1+ 37.Kxg1 Re7∓]

35...Qxc2 36.Qe3 Rd8 37.Qh3 Threatens to win with Ng5. **37...Rde8** White must now prevent ...Rxe4.

[37...Qxd3!? 38.Qe6+ Kh8 39.Qe5+ Kg8 40.Qe6+ *(40.Nf6+? Rxf6 41.Qxf6 Qe4+ 42.Kg1 Rf8-+)* 40...Kh8 41.Qe5+ Kg8 42.Qe6+= *(42.Nf6+? Rxf6 43.Qxf6 Qe4+ 44.Kg1 Rf8-+)*]

38.Qe3 Rd8 39.Qh3 And now Ng5 would win. **39...Qxd3 40.Qe6+ Kg7**

[40...Kh8!? 41.Qe5+ Kg8 42.Qe6+ *(42.Nf6+? Rxf6 43.Qxf6 Qe4+ 44.Kg1 Qg4+ 45.Kh1 Rf8-+)* 42...Kh8 43.Qe5+ Kg8 44.Qe6+= *(44.Nf6+? Rxf6 45.Qxf6 Qe4+ 46.Kg1 Qg4+ 47.Kh1 Qe4+ 48.Kg1 Rf8-+)*]

41.Qe7+ Kh8

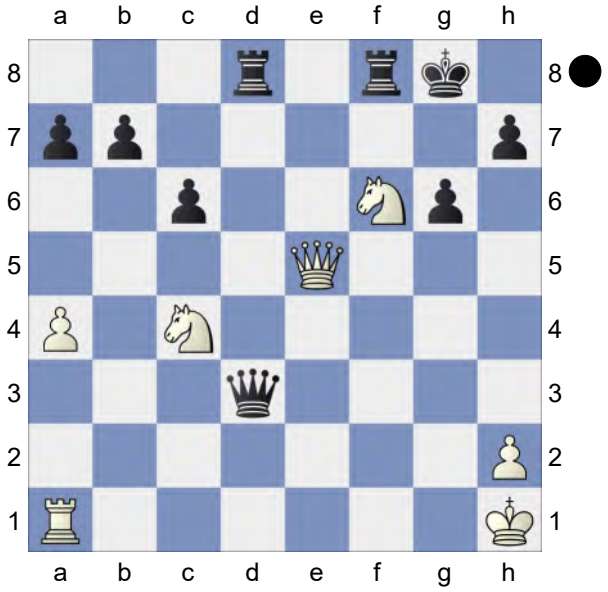
[But not 41...Rf7 42.Qxf7+! Kxf7 43.Ne5+ Ke7 44.Nxd3 Rxd3

45.Nc5±]

42.Qe5+ Kg8 (→ ...Rf1+) **43.Qe6+**

A balanced but interesting game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)

[Avoid the trap 43.Nf6+?



Rxf6! 44.Qxf6 Qe4+ 45.Kg1 Rf8-+]

½-½

44 **C67**

□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3171**

■ **BitByByte** **2805**

Blitz 21.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 The following game was another strong blow in Carlsen's confidence. After a good opening and middlegame, he reached a winning position and surprisingly missed his chances, reaching a drawish ending. This is unlike Magnus, who almost never misses an opportunity to win. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re2 b6 11.Re1 Re8** The position is equal.

12.Bf4 Ne4N

[12...Rxe1 13.Qxe1 Ne8 *(13...Qe7 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qxe7 Bxe7 16.a4 a6 17.g3 g5 18.Bxd6 Bxd6 19.Bg2 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 f5 21.Nd5 Kf7 22.Ne3 Kf6 23.Nc4 Bf8 24.Re1 Rd8 25.f4 gxf4 26.gxf4 b5 27.axb5 axb5 28.Ne3* Carlsen,M (2876)-Giri,A (2773) Stavanger 2015 [Flores Rios, Mauricio] ½-½ (78) *c6 29.Kf3 Ra8 30.Rg1 Ra2 31.b3 c5 32.Rg8 Kf7 33.Rg2 cxd4 34.Nxf5 d3 35.cxd3 Ra1 36.Nd4 b4 37.Rg5 Rb1 38.Rf5+ Ke8 39.Rb5 Rf1+ 40.Ke4 Re1+ 41.Kf5 Rd1 42.Re5+ Kf7 43.Rd5* Molina,R (2857)-10.♗a3 b6 11. ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2769) Mar del Plata 2016 CBM 056 Extra [Upsala Nya Tidning] ½-½ (78) *)* 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qd2 d5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.Bd3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Qxd5 Be7 22.Re3 Bf8 23.Rh3+ Kg8 24.Qh5 f6 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.Qh5+ Kg8 27.g4 Wirsching,A (2594)-Morozov,Y (2675) Vilnius 2021 CBM 008 [Nyback/Meyer, CD] 1-0 (36) Qe8 28.Qh7+ Kf7 29.Qh5+ Kg8 30.Qh7+ Kf7 31.Re3 Qc6 32.g5 fxg5 33.Bxd6 Bxd6 34.Qf5+ Kg8 35.Qe6+ Kf8 36.Re5 1-0 (36) Svane,R (2594)-McShane,L (2675) Germany 2021 CBM 204 Extra [Edouard,Romain]]

13.f3

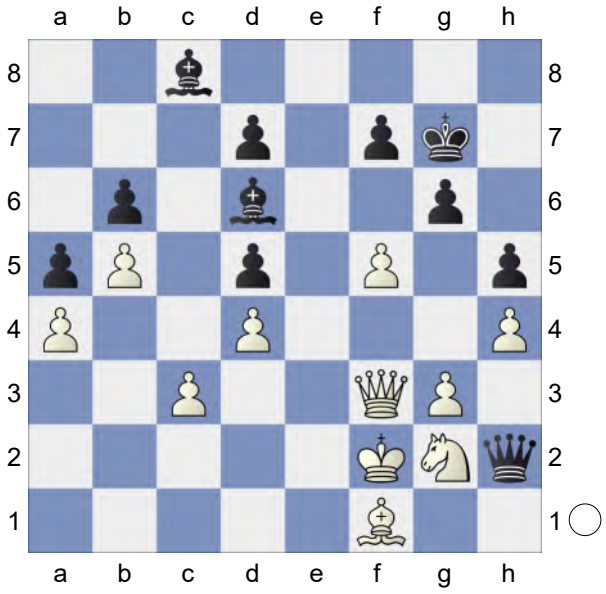
[13.Nd2 is interesting. Bb7 14.c3 Bg5 15.Nxe4 Bxf4 16.Qg4]

13...Nd6 14.Bxd6 Rxe1 15.Qxe1 cxd6 16.Qd2 d5 17.c3 Be7 18.a4 Bb7 19.g3 Bc6 20.Ba6 Qc7 21.Qe2 Re8 22.Nd2 Qd8 With the idea ...Ba3!

23.Nf1 Bd6 24.Qd2 Qe7

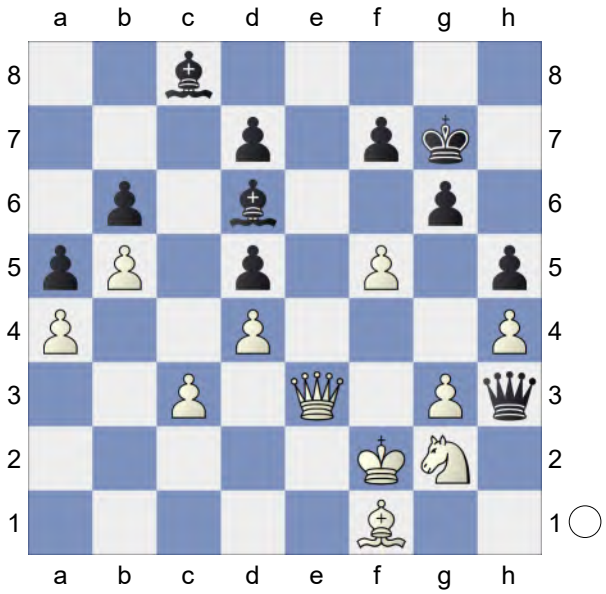
[24...Qf6!?]

25.f4 h5 26.h4 g6 27.b4 Qf6 28.Ne3 Qe6 29.Ng2 Strongly threatening Re1. **29...Qg4 30.Kf2 Qh3 31.Bd3 a5** 0.50/20
[31...Rc8= -0.01/19]
32.b5!± Bb7 33.Re1 Rxe1 1.15/24
[33...Re6= 0.28/19]
34.Qxe1± Black must now prevent Qe8+. **34...Kg7 35.Qe2 Qe6 36.Ne3** 0.47/22
[36.Qf3± 1.20/24]
36...Qh3± 37.Ng2 0.01/19
[37.Qf3± 0.49/21]
37...Bc7 1.29/23
[37...Qe6!= 0.01/19 remains equal.]
38.Qf3!± Black is on the road to losing.
38...Bd6 1.85/20
[38...Qe6± 1.14/21 keeps fighting.]
39.f5+- Bc8 40.Bf1 Hoping for Ne3.
40...Qh2
[40...Qxf5? 41.Qxf5 gxf5 42.Ne3+-]
[40...gxf5? 41.Ne3 Qh2+ 42.Bg2 Bxg3+ 43.Qxg3+ Qxg3+ 44.Kxg3+-]



41.Qe3! Qh3

(Diagram)

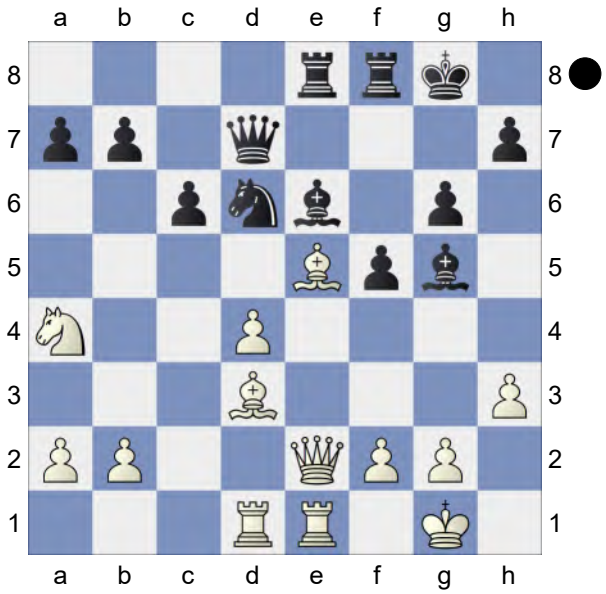


42.Qg5 And now Ne3 would win.
42...Qxf5+ 43.Qxf5 gxf5
Endgame KBB-KBN **44.Ne3 Be7 45.Nxf5+**
[Weaker is 45.Nxd5 Bd8 46.Nf4 d6+-]
45...Kf6 46.Ne3 Bb7 47.Bg2 Bd8 48.Bxd5 Bc8 49.Bf3 Kg6 50.Be4+ Kf6 51.Nd5+ Kg7 52.Nf4 Kh6 53.Bd5 d6 54.Bxf7 Bg4 55.Bb3 Prevents Bd1. **55...Bf5 56.Bd1 Bg6 57.Nxg6 Kxg6** KB-KB **58.Ke3 d5 59.Bb3 Bc7 60.Kf2 Bd6 61.Bxd5 Kf5 62.Bf3 Bc7 63.Bxh5 Bd6 64.Kf3 Ba3 65.g4+ Ke6 66.c4 Bb2 67.Ke4 Kd6 68.g5** Intending g6 and mate. **68...Bc1 69.c5+ Kc7 70.cxb6+ Kxb6 71.Be8 Bd2 72.g6** Threatening mate with g7. **72...Bh6 73.Kf5 Bg7 74.h5 Kc7 75.Bc6** White wants to mate with Kg5. **75...Kd6 76.Kg5** White threatens h6 and mate. **76...Bf8 77.h6 Ke7 78.g7 Bxg7 79.hxg7** KB-KP **79...Kf7 80.Kh6** White mates. **80...Ke6 81.g8Q+ Ke7 82.Kg6 Kd6 83.Qd8+ Ke6 84.Qd7#**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.20 (precise)
1-0

45 **C67**
□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3167**
■ **RaspFish** **2997**
Blitz 19.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Ne8 10.c4 Bf6 11.Re1 d5 12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Be3 Qd8N**
[13...Bf5 14.Nc3 Qd7 15.Qf3 Nd6 16.Nd5 Bd8 17.Bf4 Bg6 18.Rad1 c6 19.Nc3 Ba5 20.Re5 Bc7 21.d5 c5 22.h4 Bf5 23.Rde1 Bd8 24.R5e3 Bc2 25.R3e2 Nf5 26.Qh3 1-0 (26) Khlian,E (2603)-4.a3 c5 5.e3 (2456) Las Palmas 2007 200 Traps In The Opening [Tartakower/du Mont/ Alekhine]]
[13...Be6 14.Nc3 Qd7 15.Bb5 *(15.d5 Bf5 16.Qb3 Nd6 17.Rac1 a6 18.Na4 Ne4 19.f3 Nd6 20.Nc5 Qc8 21.Bf4 Rd8 22.Kh1 h6 23.Bxd6 Rxd6 24.Nxb7 Rb6 25.Qxb6 cxb6 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.Re8+ Kh7 28.Nd6 Bb7 29.Bd3+ g6* Vachier Lagrave,M (2750)-So,W (2776) Stavanger NOR 2022 [win10] 1-0 (39) *)* 15...Qd8 16.Qf3 c6 17.Bd3 Nc7 18.Rad1 Nd5 19.Ne4 Re8 20.a3 a5 21.h3 Rc8 22.Bb1 b6 23.Bc1 Be7 24.Re2 Nf6 25.Ng5 Bd5 26.Qd3 g6 27.Nf3 Bf8 28.Ne5 Abdisalimov,A (2536)-Martirosyan,H (2656) Doha QAT 2024 [Kitty Kat] 1-0 (77)]
14.Nc3 Nd6 15.Bf4 Be6 16.Bd3 c6 17.Be5 g6 18.Qd2 Bg5 19.Qe2 Qd7 20.Rad1 Rae8 21.h3 f5 22.Na4

(Diagram)

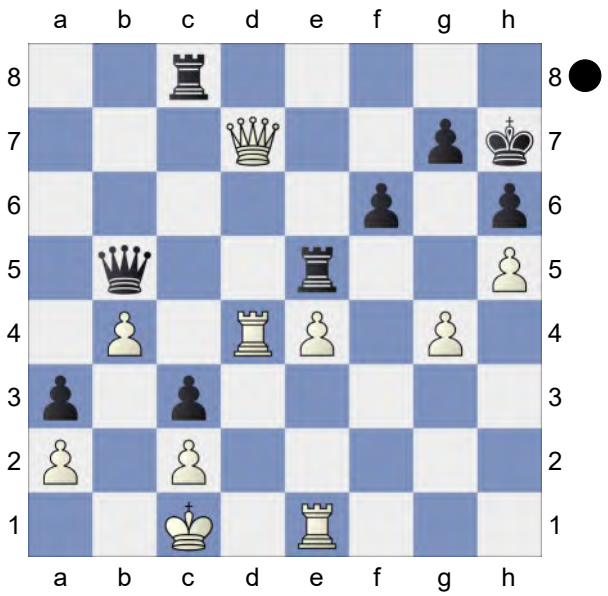


Black must now prevent Nc5. **22...b6** Inhibits Nc5. **23.Nc3 b5 24.Qf3 Nf7! 25.Bc2** &Bianco is more active. **25...Bc4 26.b3 Be6 27.Bf4 Bxf4 28.Qxf4 a6 29.Qc1 Qd6 30.Bd3 Bd7 31.Re2 Rxe2 32.Bxe2 Re8 33.Bf1 Be6 34.Ne2 Nd8 35.g3 Bf7 36.Qc2 Bd5 37.Nc3 Ne6 38.Nxd5 cxd5 39.Re1 Kf7 40.Qd1 Qb4 41.Bg2 Nxd4 42.Bxd5+ Kf8 43.Rxe8+ Kxe8 44.a3 Qc3 45.b4 Ke7 46.Bb7 Ne6** The position is equal. **47.Bd5 Kd6 48.Bb7+ Ke7 49.Bd5 Kd6 50.Ba8+ Ke7 51.Bd5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

46 **C65**
□ **ToromBot** **3064**
■ **RipSockeye** **3065**
Rapid 18.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 12min C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6**

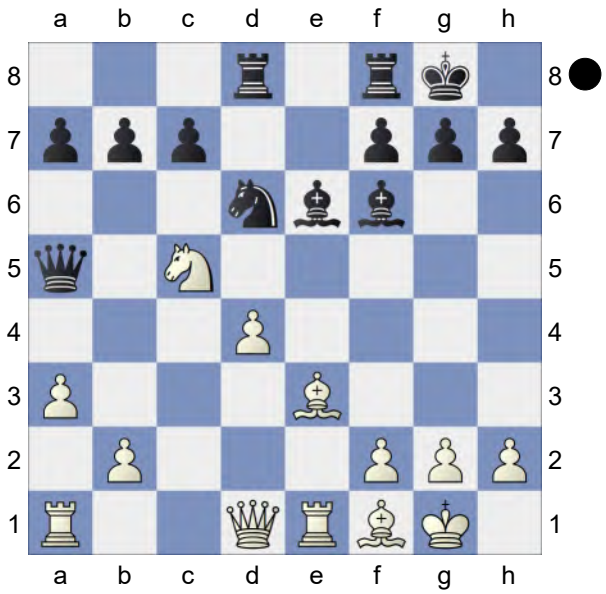
4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.Nc4 Nd7 8.Ne3 The position is equal.
[8.0-0 Re8 9.Bd2 Bd6 10.Bc3 c5 11.a4 f6 12.Nh4 Nf8 13.g3 Bh3 14.Ng2 Qd7 15.f4 exf4 16.gxf4 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 f5 18.e5 Qc6+ 19.Qf3 Qxf3+ 20.Kxf3 Be7 21.Ne3 g6 22.Rh1 Red8 Chapter,W (2753)-Hanke,L (2783) corr 2017 200 Traps In The Opening [Kozlov] ½-½ (35)]
[8.Be3 Bd6 9.Qe2 c5 10.c3 Re8 11.a4 Bf8 12.0-0 b6 13.Nfd2 Bb7 14.f4 Qe7 15.f5 f6 16.Rf3 Rad8 17.Rh3 Nb8 18.Rf1 h6 19.Rff3 Qd7 20.Bf2 Qxa4 21.Rfg3 Kf7 22.Qh5+ Ke7 Sanchez Lopez,J (2013)-Vela Frago,A (2259) Salobrena 2023 0-1 (47)]
8...a5N
[8...Re8 9.g4 Bxe3 *(9...Bb4+ 10.Bd2 a5 11.h4 Nf8 12.a3 Bc5 13.Nf5 f6 14.Be3 Ne6 15.Qd2 Bf8 16.h5 h6 17.N3h4 Ng5 18.f3 Be6 19.Qf2 Bf7 20.Kf1 a4 21.Kg2 c5 22.Bxc5 Bxc5 23.Qxc5 Ne6 24.Qe3* Chapter-Games Game 2 (37)) 10.Bxe3 Nf8 11.Rg1 Qd6 12.Qd2 a5 13.Nh4 Ne6 14.Nf5 Qb4 15.c3 Qb5 16.0-0-0 c5 17.f4 exf4 18.Bxf4 a4 19.a3 Qc6 20.Be5 Ra6 21.Rdf1 Qd7 22.Nh6+ gxh6 23.Qxh6 S,L (2611)-Anton Guijarro,D (2674) Khanty-Mansiysk (m/3-rapid) 142/116 2019 Chess Informant 142 [Abramovic, Bosko] ½-½ (55) f6 24.Bxf6 Qxd3 25.Rf5 Qxe4 26.Rgf1 Qd3 27.Rg5+ Kf7 28.Qh5+ Kf8 29.Bg7+ Ke7 30.Qf7+ Kd6 31.Rd1 Qxd1+ 32.Kxd1 Nxg5 33.Qxe8 Bxg4+ 34.Kc1 Ne6 35.Bf6 c4 36.Be7+ Ke5 37.Qb5+ Kf4 38.Qxc4+ Chapter C50-Games Game 8 (55)]
9.g4 a4 10.Nf5 Bd6 11.Bg5 f6 12.Be3 Nc5 13.h4 Ne6 14.Qd2 c5 15.h5 Rf7 16.0-0-0 Bf8 17.N3h4 b5 18.Ng6 Qe8
[18...hxg6? 19.hxg6 Nf4 20.Bxf4 Bxf5 21.gxf5 exf4 22.Qxf4+-]
19.f4 -0.60/18 **exf4∓**
[19...hxg6 20.hxg6 Nxf4 21.Qh2 Nxd3+ 22.Rxd3 Bxf5 23.Qh8#]
20.Bxf4 Nxf4
[20...hxg6 is a self mate. 21.hxg6 Bd6 22.Rh8+!! Kxh8 23.Qh2+ Kg8 24.Qh7+ Kf8 25.Qh8#]
21.Qxf4 a3 Hoping for ...axb2+.
[21...hxg6? 22.hxg6 Bd6 23.Nxd6 cxd6 24.Qh2+-]
22.b3 Bd6
[22...hxg6 23.hxg6 Bd6 24.Nxd6 cxd6 25.Qh2+-]
23.Nxd6 cxd6 24.Nh4 h6 25.Rhe1 -0.60/21
[White should play 25.Nf5= -0.08/20 Bxf5 26.gxf5]
25...c4 26.dxc4 bxc4 27.Nf5
[Reject 27.Rxd6 cxb3 28.cxb3 Bb7=]
27...Be6 28.Nd4 -0.90/20
[28.Kb1∓ -0.46/17]
28...Re7 -0.50/19
[28...cxb3∓ -0.90/20 29.axb3 a2]
29.b4 c3 30.Nxe6 Rxe6 31.Qf3
[Not 31.Rxd6? Qb8 32.Red1 Qxb4!-+]
31...Qc6 -0.20/23
[31...Rc8∓ -0.53/20]
32.Rd4!= Re5 33.Qd3! Qd7
[33...Rc8!?]
34.Rg1! Rc8 35.Qa6 Prevents Qb7.
35...Qe8 36.Qxd6 -0.62/21
[36.Kb1= -0.02/20]
36...Qb5!∓ 37.Re1 Prevents Qe2.
37...Kh7 Black has compensation.
38.Qd7
(Diagram)



Qb8 -0.13/23
[38...Qb6!∓ -0.68/22]
39.Re3= Rc7 40.Qd8 Qa7 aiming for ... Rc4! **41.Red3 Qb7 42.Rd1 Qc6 43.Qf8** Rd8 would kill now. **43...Rce7! 44.Rd8 Re8 45.Rxe8 Rxe8 46.Qc5 Qxe4** ...Qf4+ is the strong threat. **47.Qf5+ Qxf5** -0.05/5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.08 (flawless)
[Black should try 47...Kg8∓ -0.57/23 48.Qxe4 Rxe4]
½-½

47 **C67**
□ **Botyuliirma** **3036**
■ **RaspFish** **3045**
Rapid 16.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Ne8 10.c4 Bf6 11.Re1 d5** White is slightly better. **12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Be3! Be6 14.Nc3 Qa5**
[14...Qd7 15.Bb5 Qd8 16.Qf3 c6 17.Bd3 Nc7 18.Rad1 Nd5 19.Ne4 Re8 20.a3 a5 21.h3 Rc8 22.Bb1 b6 23.Bc1 Be7 24.Re2 Nf6 25.Ng5 Bd5 26.Qd3 g6 27.Nf3 Bf8 28.Ne5 Nd7 29.Qg3 Abdisalimov,A (2536)-Martirosyan,H (2656) Doha QAT 2024 [Kitty Kat] 1-0 (77)]
15.Ne4 Rd8 16.Nc5 Nd6N
[16...Bd5 17.b4 Qa3 18.Qc2 a5 19.b5 b6 20.Nd3 Be4 21.Rad1 Bf5 22.Bc1 Qd6 23.Qe2 Bxd3 24.Rxd3 Qd7 25.a4 Nd6 26.Bf4 Rfe8 27.Be5 c5 28.Qd1 c4 29.Rf3 Bxe5 30.dxe5 Nb7 31.Qc1 Kurpnieks,V (2206)-Campani,P (2203) ICCF 2023 Fernschach2025 [Stockfish17/Mega2024/Fernschach2024] 1-0 (73)]
17.a3

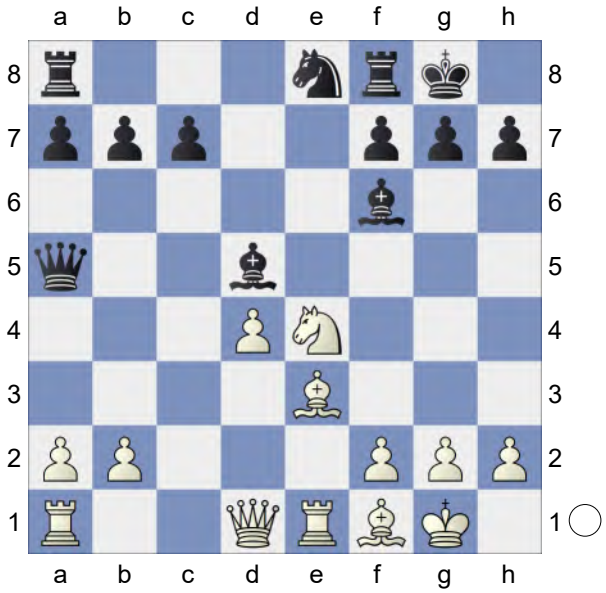


And now b4 would win. **17...Qb6** 0.66/20
[⌓17...c6 0.32/20]
18.Nxe6± fxe6 19.d5! Qxb2 20.Rb1 Qa2 21.dxe6 Qxe6 22.Rc1 Qf7 23.Qa4 a6 24.g3 Kh8 25.Qc2 Against Nf5 **25...Nb5 26.Bxb5 axb5 27.Qxc7 Bb2 28.Qxf7 Rxf7 29.Rb1 Bxa3 30.Rxb5 g6 31.Kg2 Bf8 32.g4 h6 33.Rc1 Rdd7 34.h4 Kh7 35.h5 g5**

36.Rc4 Rde7 37.Rcb4 &Bianco is more active. **37...Rd7 38.Rc4** -0.01/22
[38.Rb3± 0.61/23]
38...Bg7 0.61/21
[38...Rde7!= -0.01/22]
39.Kg3 Rde7 40.Rd5 Re5 41.Rxe5 Bxe5+ Endgame KRB-KRB **42.Kg2! Bg7 43.Bb6** 0.09/22
[43.Rc5± 0.64/23]
43...Kg8 0.41/21
[43...Rf6!= 0.09/22 44.Be3 Rf7]
44.Kf1 Bf8 45.Kg2 -0.01/23
[White should try 45.Be3± 0.53/22]
45...Rf6 46.Be3 b6 47.Bd2 0.08/22
[47.Rc7± 0.51/22]
47...Bc5 48.f4 gxf4 49.Kf3 Rf7 50.Bc3 Rb7 51.Kxf4 Bf8 52.Rc8 Kf7 53.Kf5 b5 54.g5 hxg5 With the idea ... b4. **55.Kxg5** -0.32/21
[55.Bb2= -0.01/22 was preferrable.]
55...b4∓ 56.Bxb4 Bxb4 57.h6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

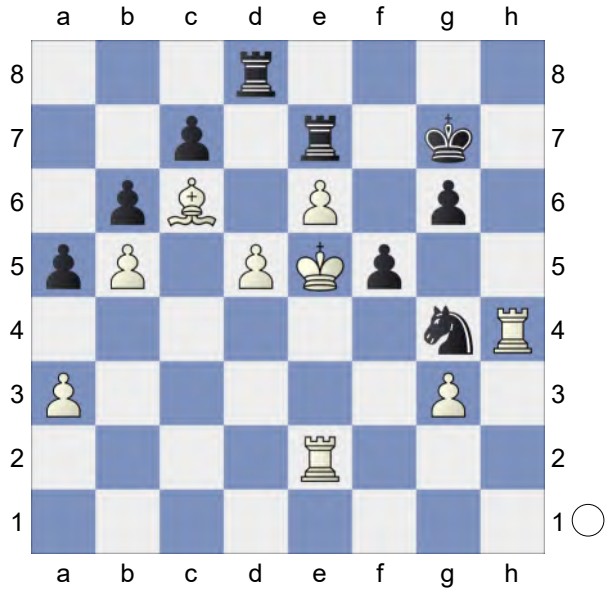
48 **C67**
□ **Botyuliirma** **3007**
■ **IntegralBot** **2935**
Blitz 16.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Ne8 10.c4 Bf6! 11.Re1 d5** White has an edge. **12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Be3 Qa5N**
[13...Bf5 14.Nc3 Qd7 15.Qf3 Nd6 16.Nd5 Bd8 17.Bf4 Bg6 18.Rad1 c6 19.Nc3 Ba5 20.Re5 Bc7 21.d5 c5 22.h4 Bf5 23.Rde1 Bd8 24.R5e3 Bc2 25.R3e2 Nf5 26.Qh3 1-0 Fedorchuk,S (2589)-Bulmaga,I (2416) Bastia op 2023 (9)]
14.Nc3 Be6 15.Ne4 Bd5

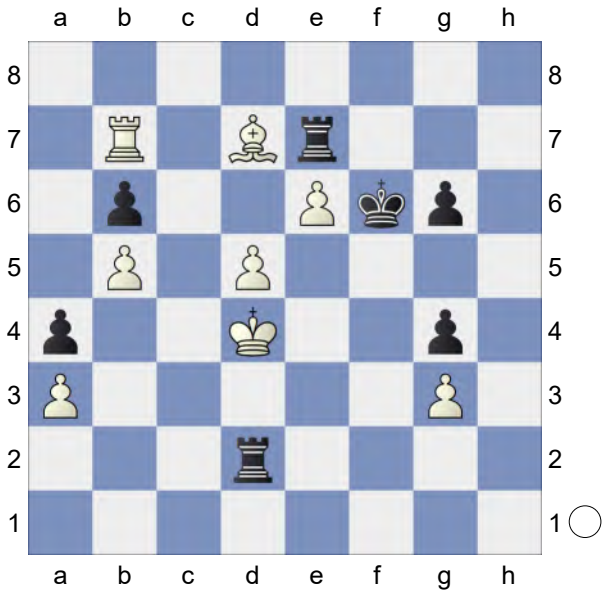


16.b4! Qa3
[16...Qb6 17.Nc3]
17.Nc5 Rd8! 18.Qc2 a5 19.b5 b6 20.Nd3 Be4 21.Rad1! Qd6 22.Qe2 Bd5 23.Nf4 Rd7 24.Nxd5 Qxd5 25.Bf4 Prevents Nd6. **25...Re7 26.Be5 Nd6 27.Qb2 Rfe8 28.Qb1** Prevents g6. **28...Bg5 29.g3 g6 30.f4 Bh6 31.Bg2 Qc4 32.Bc6** A strong pair of Bishops. **32...Rd8 33.d5 Bg7 34.Rc1 Qa4 35.Kg2 h5 36.Rcd1 h4 37.Rd4 Qa3 38.Qc2 Nf5 39.Rd3 Qb4 40.Qd1 hxg3 41.hxg3 Qc4** 1.09/22
[41...Bxe5± 0.53/25 42.fxe5 Kg7]
42.Qd2 0.40/23
[42.Rc3!± 1.09/22 Qb4 *(42...Qxa2+? 43.Re2+-)* 43.Qd2]
42...Rc8 1.28/22
[Black should play 42...Bxe5± 0.40/23 43.fxe5 Kg7]
43.Rc3 Qa4 44.a3 Rd8 45.Qc1 Rf8
[45...Bxe5? 46.fxe5 Qd4 47.d6 Rxe5 *(47...cxd6? 48.Re4+-)* 48.dxc7+-]

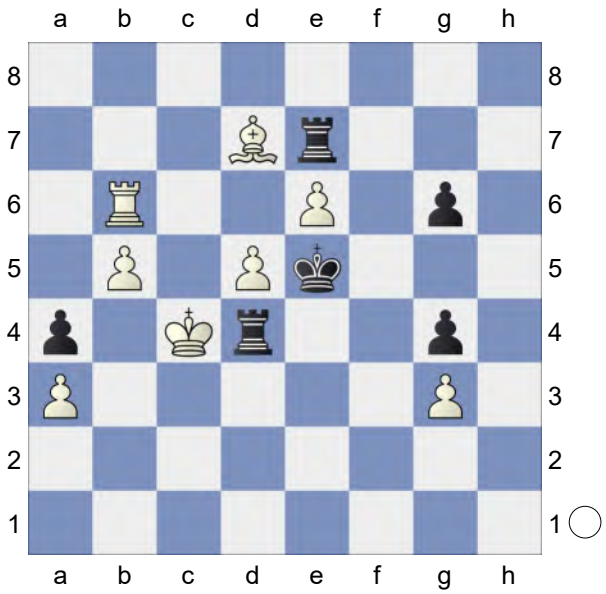
46.Qb1 Bxe5 47.fxe5
[47.Rxe5 Rxe5 48.fxe5 Qd4∓]
47...Qd4 48.Qd3 Rd8 49.Qxd4 Nxd4 50.Rd3 Ne6 51.Kf3 0.65/24
[51.Rde3± 1.38/24 Nc5 52.g4]
51...Ng5+ 1.08/25
[51...Kg7!± 0.65/24 feels stronger.]
52.Kg4± f6 53.Rdd1 Nh7 54.e6↑ Black is under strong pressure. **54...f5+ 55.Kf4** White is more active. **55...Kg7** 1.61/25
[55...Nf6± 1.01/27 was worth a try.]
56.Re2+- Nf6 57.Rh1! Dodges Ng4
57...Rc8
[57...Nxd5+ 58.Kg5 Rd6 *(58...Nf6? 59.Rh6+-)* 59.Rh6 Rdxe6 60.Rxe6 Rxe6 61.Bxd5+-]
58.Ke5! Rd8 59.Rh4! Ng4+



60.Rxg4! fxg4 Endgame KRR-KRB
61.Rc2 a4? 4.69/27
[61...Rd6 2.54/25 62.Rc4 Rd8]
62.Rc4 Rf8 63.Bd7!
[63.Rxg4 Rf5+ 64.Ke4 Kf6=]
[63.Rxa4 Rf5+ 64.Kd4 Rf2=]
63...Rf5+ 64.Kd4 Kf6 65.Rxc7 Rf2 Strongly threatening ...Rd2+. **66.Rb7**
[66.d6 Rd2+ 67.Kc3 Rxd6∓]
66...Rd2+



67.Kc4! Ke5 68.Rxb6 Rd4+
[68...Rxd5 69.Rc6 *(69.Ra6 Rh7+-)* 69...Rd4+ 70.Kc5±]



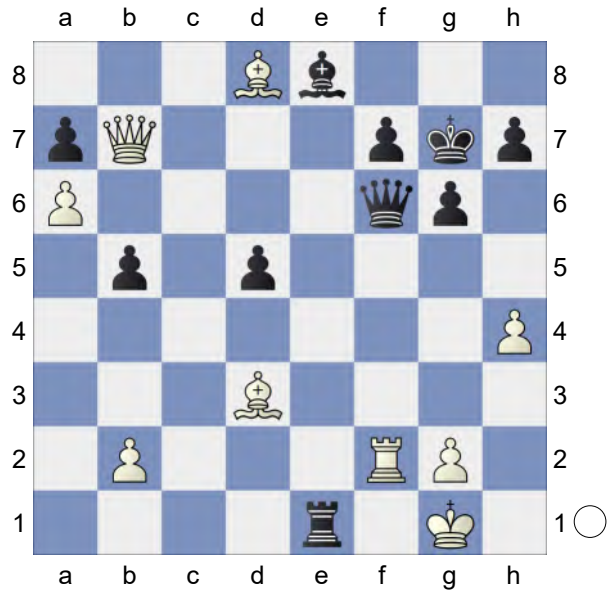
69.Kc3!
[69.Kc5 Rxd5+ 70.Kc6 Rd3±]
69...Kxd5 70.Rc6 Wards off Rc4+
70...Re4 71.Rc7 Re3+ 72.Kb4 Rxg3 73.Kxa4 Kd6 74.Rc6+ Kd5 75.b6 Rh7 76.b7 Rhh3 77.Ka5
[77.b8R? is a self mate. Rxa3+ 78.Kb5 Rhb3#]
[Avoid the trap 77.Rc3? Rxc3 78.Kb5

Rc5+ *(78...Rxa3? 79.Kb6-+)* 79.Kb6 Rb3+ *(79...Rxa3 80.e7=)* 80.Ka6 Rc7-+ *(80...Rxa3+? 81.Kb6-+)*]
77...Rb3 78.Ka6 Rxa3+ 79.Kb6 Rab3+ 80.Kc7 Rxb7+ 81.Kxb7 KRB-KR **81...Rh7 82.Kc7 g3 83.Rc2** Hoping for Re2. **83...Re7 84.Re2** Intending Kd8 and mate. **84...g5 85.Kd8 Rg7 86.e7 Rg8+ 87.e8Q Rxe8+ 88.Kxe8 Kd4 89.Ke7 Kd3 90.Rg2 Ke3 91.Bc6 Kf4 92.Kf6 Ke3 93.Ke5 Kd3 94.Rxg3+ Kc4 95.Bd5+ Kc5 96.Rg4 Kb6 97.Kd6 Ka6 98.Kc5 Ka7 99.Ra4+ Kb8 100.Kd6 Kc8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless) **101.Ra8#**
1-0

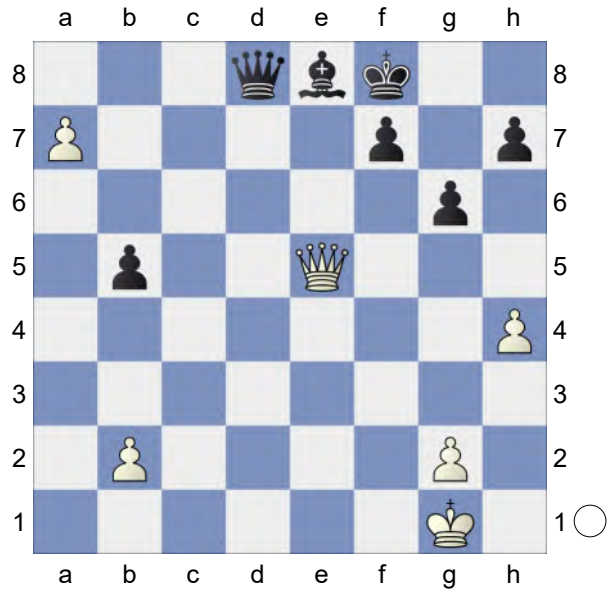
49 **C67**
□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3130**
■ **BitByByte** **2801**
Blitz 16.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 The following game was another strong blow in Carlsen's confidence. After a good opening and middlegame, he reached a winning position and surprisingly missed his chances, reaching a drawish ending. This is unlike Magnus, who almost never misses an opportunity to win. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re2 b6 11.Re1 Bb7**
[11...Re8 12.Bf4 Rxe1 13.Qxe1 Qe7 *(13...Ne8 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qd2 d5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.Bd3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Qxd5 Be7 22.Re3 Bf8 23.Rh3+ Kg8 24.Qh5 f6 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.Qh5+ Kg8 27.g4 Qe8 28.Qh7+* Svane,R (2594)-McShane,L (2675) Germany 2021 CBM 204 Extra [Edouard,Romain] 1-0 (36)*)* 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qxe7 Bxe7 16.a4 a6 17.g3 g5 18.Bxd6 Bxd6 19.Bg2 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 f5 21.Nd5 Kf7 22.Ne3 Kf6 23.Nc4 Bf8 24.Re1 Rd8 25.f4 gxf4 26.gxf4 Carlsen,M (2876)-Giri,A (2773) Stavanger 2015 [Flores Rios, Mauricio] ½-½ (78)]
12.Bf4 Ne4N
[12...Nf5 13.c3 Re8 14.Nd2 Rxe1 15.Qxe1 g5 16.Bg3 Nxg3 17.hxg3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Ne4 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rb8 21.Rd1 Rxb2 22.Qf5 d6 23.Rd3 Kg7 24.Rf3 1 Chapter 16 Berlin-10...b6 Spanish for White part]
13.Nd2 Re8
[13...Nxf2 is more complex. 14.Kxf2 Bxd4+ 15.Kg3 Bxb2 16.Rb1 Bc3]
14.Bd3 Ng5 15.Rxe8+ Qxe8 16.c3 Qe7 17.a4
[Of course not 17.Bxc7 d6 18.Bxd6 *(18.h4 Ne6∓)* 18...Qxd6∓]
17...Ne6 18.Bg3 d5 The position is equal. **19.a5 c5 20.a6 Bc6 21.Nf3**
[21.Qh5 g6 22.Qe2 cxd4∓]
21...cxd4
[21...Rd8 with more complications. 22.Qc2 g6 23.h3 Qd7]
22.cxd4
[22.Nxd4 is more complex. Bxd4 23.cxd4 Nxd4 24.Qg4]
22...Nxd4 23.Nxd4 Bxd4 24.Rc1 Qf6 25.Qc2 Be8 26.Qc7 White wants to play Qb7. **26...b5 27.Qb7 Rd8 28.Rc2 g6! 29.h4**
[Much worse is 29.Bc7 Rd7 30.Bf1 Bb6∓]
29...Kg7 30.Bc7 Rd7 31.Re2! Re7

32.Bd8 Bxf2+! 33.Rxf2 Re1+



Discovered Attack **34.Rf1 Rxf1+ 35.Bxf1** The board is on fire. **35...Qxd8 36.Qxa7 d4** Threatens to win with ...d3. **37.Qc5 d3 38.Bxd3 Qxd3 39.Qe5+ Kf8 40.a7 Qd8**

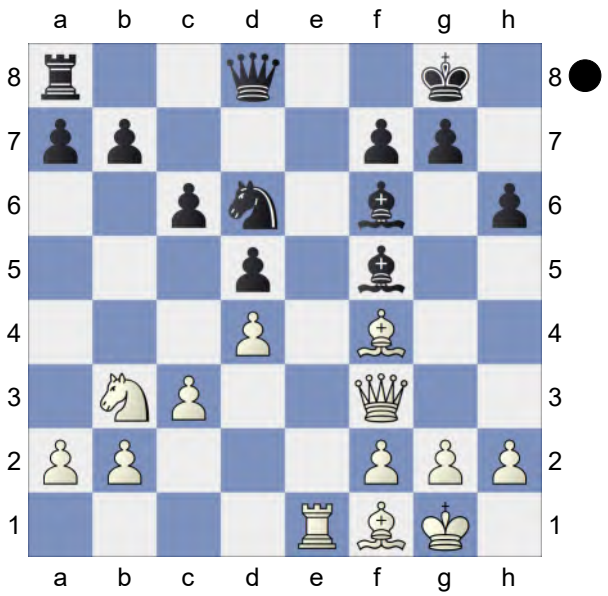


aiming for ...Qb6+. **41.Qh8+ Ke7 42.Qe5+ Kf8** Strongly threatening ... Qb6+. **43.Qh8+ Ke7 44.Qe5+ Kf8** An even fight not without its subleties. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.01 (flawless)
½-½

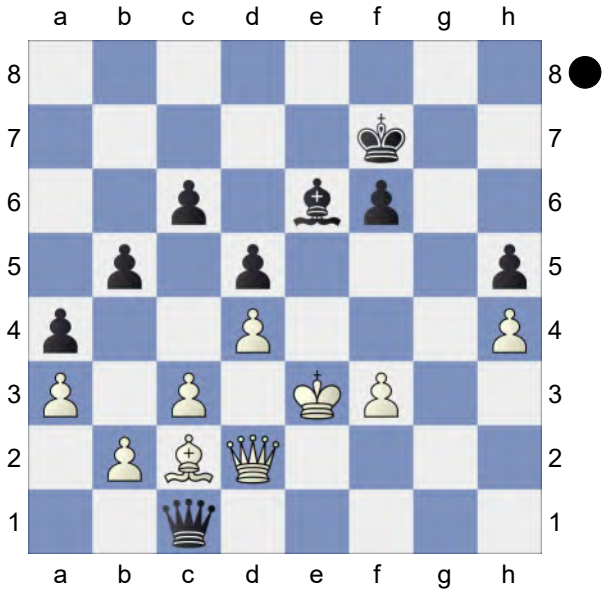
50 **C67**
□ **lenschess-com** **3017**
■ **RipSockeye** **3059**
Rapid 13.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Bf4 d5 14.Nd2 Bf5**
[14...c6 15.a4 *(15.Qe3 Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 18.Qg3 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qb7* Lou,Y (2459)-Zhao,J (2535) Shaoxing 2024 1-0 (58)*)* 15...a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 Carlsen,M (2868)-Topalov,V (2793) Stavanger 2013 CBM 155 [Marin,Mihail] ½-½ (51)]
15.Qe2 c6 16.Re1N
[16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Re1 a5 20.Nc5 Nxc5 21.Qe8+ 1-0 (21) Paravyan,D (2612)-Lazavik,D (2553) Chess.com INT 2023]
16...Nd6 17.Nb3 h6 18.Qf3 Bh7 19.Qg4 Bf5 20.Qf3

(Diagram)



Hoping for Bxd6. **20...Bh7 21.Qe2 Bg5** 0.36/20
[21...Bf5= 0.01/18]
22.Qe5
[22.Bxd6!? Qxd6 23.g3=]
22...Bxf4 23.Qxf4 g5 24.Qg3 a5 25.Nc5 b6 26.Nd3 f6 27.Re6 Nf5 28.Qh3 Qc8! 29.Re1 Qd7 30.Qg4 Re8 31.g3 Kf7 32.Rxe8 Qxe8 33.Qd1 Bg6 34.Ne1 Nd6 35.Nc2 Qe4 36.Ne3 b5 Inhibits Qa4. **37.Ng2**
[37.Bh3 keeps more tension. Ke7 38.Qe2 Qb1+ 39.Nf1+]
37...Kg7 38.f3 Qf5 39.Ne3 Qd7 40.Qc1 h5 41.Kf2 Qc7 42.h4 Kf7 43.Qd2
[43.Bh3 with more complications. a4 44.hxg5 fxg5 45.Qd2]
43...a4 44.a3
[44.hxg5 seems wilder. fxg5 45.Bd3 Qd7 46.b3]
44...Qb8 45.Qe1 -0.87/22
[45.hxg5= -0.25/20 fxg5 46.Be2]
45...gxh4∓ 46.gxh4 Nf5 -0.01/24
[46...Nc4∓ -1.46/20 47.Bxc4 bxc4]
47.Nxf5!= Bxf5 48.Ke3 Qh2 49.Qf2 Qh1 50.Kf4 Bh3 51.Bd3 Bd7 52.Ke3 Qc1+ 53.Qd2 Qh1 54.Qf2 Qc1+ 55.Qd2 Qg1+ 56.Qf2 Qa1 57.Qe2 Be6 58.Bc2 Qc1+ -0.55/24
[58...Qh1= -0.01/28]
59.Qd2∓ Qf1 60.Qf2 Qc1+ 61.Qd2



Qh1! 62.Qf2 The position is equal.
62...Qa1 63.Qd2 Qh1 64.Qf2! Qa1 65.Qe2 Qg1+ 66.Qf2!
[But not 66.Kd2 Bd7∓]
66...Qh1 67.Kd2 Qh3
[Don't play 67...Qa1 68.Qg3±]
68.Ke3 Bd7 69.Bd3 Qh1 70.Kd2 Qh3 71.Ke3 Be6 72.Bc2 Bg4 73.Bb1 Bc8 74.Bd3 Bd7 75.Kf4 Be6 76.Bc2 Ke7 77.Bg6 Kd7 78.Bc2 Qh1 Strongly threatening ...Qc1+. **79.Bd3 Qd1 80.Qe3 Qh1 81.Qf2 Ke7 82.Bf1 Bh3 83.Bd3 Be6 84.Bf1 Bh3 85.Bd3 Be6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
½-½

51 **C67**
□ **AVeryBigMistake** **3029**
■ **RaspFish** **3033**
Rapid 10.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

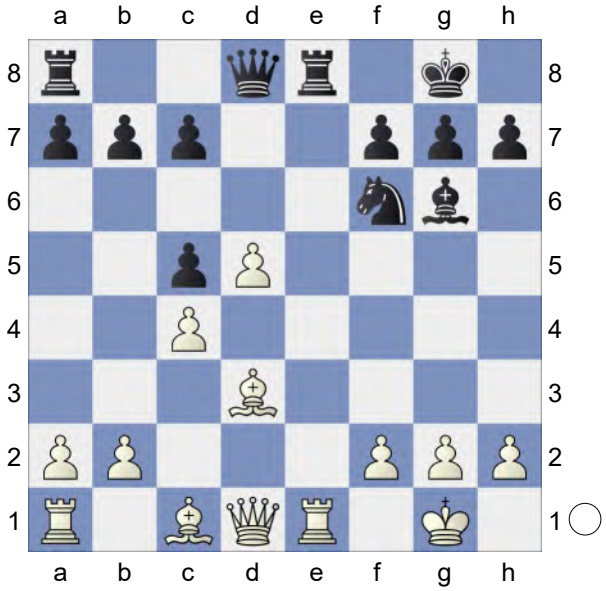
Blitz 5min+5sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Ne8 10.d5 Bc5 11.Re1 d6** White is slightly better. **12.Nc3 Bf5 13.Bd3 Bg6N**

[13...Qh4 is more complex. 14.Be3 *(14.g3 Qh3 15.Ne4 Bxe4 16.Rxe4 Bxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 18.Kf3 Qh5+ 19.g4 Qh3+ 20.Ke2 Qg2+ 21.Ke1 Nf6 22.Qe2 Qg3+ 23.Qf2 Nxe4 24.Qxg3 Nxg3 25.Kf2 Rfe8 26.Kxg3 Re5 27.Bc4 Re1 28.b3 f6* Chapter C50-Game Game 10 (58) *29.Bb2 Rxa1 30.Bxa1 Kf7 31.Bd4 a6 32.a4 Rh8 33.Be2 Re8 34.Kf2 Ke7 35.a5 Rf8 36.Kg3 Kd7 37.b4 Re8 38.Bd3 Ke7 39.Bxh7 Kd8 40.g5 fxg5 41.Bxg7 Re3+ 42.Kg4 Ra3 43.Bd4 c5* Karjakin,S (2783)-Eljanov,P (2751) Shamkir 132/129 2017 [Tadic,Branko] 1-0 (58)) 14...Bxe3 15.Rxe3 Bg6]

[13...Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Nf6 15.h3 h6 16.Bd2 Qd7 17.Qf3 Bd4 18.Rad1 Rae8 19.Rxe8 Nxe8 20.Qd3 Bb6 21.Re1 Nf6 22.Ne4 Qf5 23.g4 Qg6 24.Bc3 Nd7 25.Ng3 Qxd3 26.cxd3 g6 27.Kg2 Ne5 28.Rd1 So,W (2778)-Nakamura,H (2750) Berlin (m/4-playoff-rapid) 2022 [Moradiabadi, Elshan] 1-0 (65)]

[13...Qf6 14.Ne4 Bxe4 15.Rxe4 Qxf2+ 16.Kh1 Qf6 17.c3 g6 18.a4 a6 19.Bh6 Ng7 20.Qe2 Qd8 21.Rf1 Re8 22.Qf3 Qd7 23.Rh4 Re5 24.b4 Ba7 25.Bf4 Rh5 26.Rxh5 Nxh5 27.Bh6 Qe7 28.g4 Shevchenko,K (2647)-Parligras,M (2576) Terme Catez 150/118 2021 [Perunovic,Milos] ½-½ (43)]

14.Ne4 Nf6 15.Nxc5 dxc5 16.c4 Re8

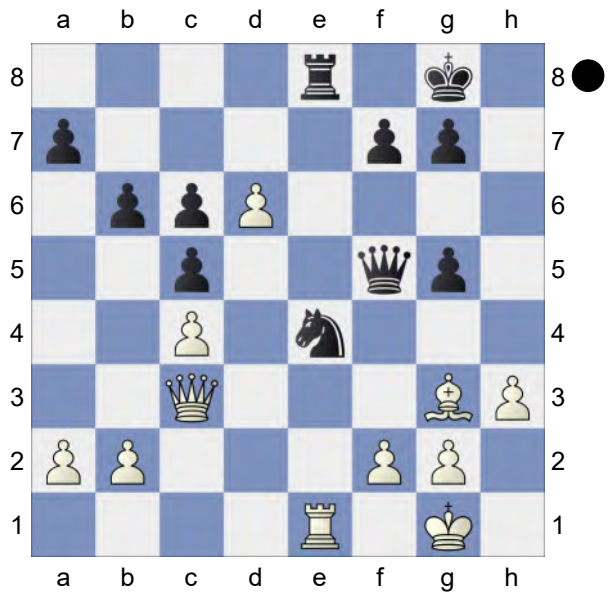


White must now prevent ...Rxe1+. **17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.Bf4 Rxe1+ 19.Qxe1 Qd7 20.Qe5 c6 21.d6 b6 22.Qc3 Re8 23.Bg3 Qg4 24.Qd3 Qf5 25.Qc3** 0.01/21

[25.Qxf5± 0.33/21 deserves consideration. gxf5 26.f3]

25...g5 26.h3 Ne4 27.Re1

(Diagram)

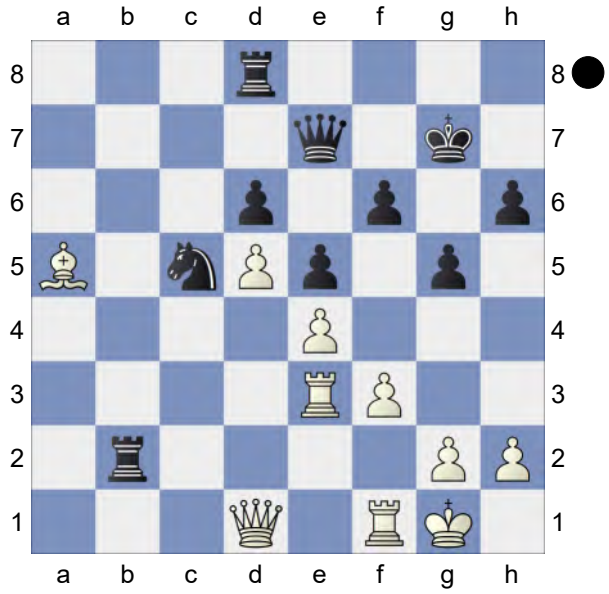


Strongly threatening Qd3. **27...Rd8 28.Qd3 Nxg3 29.Qxg3=** Endgame KQR-KQR **29...Qg6**
[29...Qf4 seems wilder. 30.Qd3 Qd4 31.Qf5 g4]
30.Rd1 Qe6 31.Qd3 Rd7! 32.a3 a5 The position is equal. **33.g3 a4**
[Resist 33...Qxh3 34.Re1 Kf8 35.Re3±]
34.Qc2 Rxd6 35.Rxd6 Qxd6 36.Qxa4 KQ-KQ **36...Qd2 37.Qxc6 Qc1+ 38.Kg2 Qxc4 39.Qxb6** Qc6 is the strong threat. **39...Qd5+ 40.Kh2 Qd4! 41.Kg2** And now Qb7 would win. **41...Qd5+ 42.f3 Qd2+ 43.Kf1 Qd3+ 44.Kf2 Qd2+ 45.Kf1 Qd1+ 46.Kf2 Qd2+ 47.Kf1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

52 **C65**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2805**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2740**
Wch Blitz Final (1.2) 31.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Be6 7.0-0
[7.Nxe5? Qd4 8.Rf1 Qxe5-+]
7...Bd6 8.Nb3 b6 9.Bg5 h6N
[9...Qd7 10.Bh4 c5 11.Nbd2 Nh5 12.Ng5 Nf4 13.Nxe6 Nxe6 14.Nc4 f6 15.f3 a5 16.a4 h5 17.Bf2 h4 18.h3 Be7 19.Qe1 g5 20.Ne3 0-0-0 21.Nf5 Nd4 22.Ne3 Ne6 23.Kh2 Kb7 24.Qc3 1-0 Caruana,F (2766)-Aronian,L (2745) American Cup Elim rapid 2023 (2.4) Nd4 25.Nc4 Rhf8 26.Rfe1 Qc6 27.Qd2 Qd7 28.Be3 Qe6 29.Qf2 Qc6 30.Reb1 Kc8 31.Rd1 Qe6 32.Kh1 Rd7 33.c3 Nc6 34.Qc2 Rfd8 35.Rd2 Kb8 36.Rad1 Bf8 37.Qb3 Qe8 38.Qb5 Qe6 39.Qa6 1-0 Deslandes,P (2766)-C 06/32 (2745) 2009 (2.4) Rf7 40.Bf2 Rfd7 41.Na3 Na7 42.Ra1 Qc6 43.Qc4 Rd6 44.Nb5 Nxb5 45.axb5 Qd7 46.d4 exd4 47.cxd4 cxd4 48.b4 Qe6 49.Qc1 R6d7 50.bxa5 Bb4 51.Rda2 Bxa5 52.Be1 d3 53.Bxa5 bxa5 54.Qd2 1-0 Caruana,F (2764)-Yuan,Q (2373) Titled Tuesday intern op 18th Apr Early blitz 2023 (10)]
10.Bh4 c5 11.Nbd2 g5 12.Bg3 Nd7 13.Nc4 f6 14.a4 a5 0.05/20
[14...Nf8∓ -0.36/18]
15.Nxd6+!= cxd6 16.c3 Bg4 17.d4 Qe7 0.87/19
[17...0-0± 0.42/17]

18.Qd3 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 0-0 20.Rad1 Rfd8 21.Rd3 0.21/19 White is more active.
[21.h4± 0.64/18]
21...Nf8 22.Qh5 -0.01/20
[22.dxe5± 0.37/19 dxe5 23.Rfd1]
22...Kg7 23.Qd1 cxd4 24.cxd4 Ne6 25.d5 -0.54/20
[25.h4= -0.14/20]
25...Nc5!∓ 26.Re3 Rab8 27.f3 b5 28.axb5 Rxb5 29.Be1 -1.47/20
[29.Ra3∓ -0.41/19]
29...Rxb2∓ 30.Bxa5? -4.05/22
[30.Re2∓ -1.21/19 Rxe2 31.Qxe2]



30...Rdb8? -0.63/21
[Better is 30...Qa7!-+ -4.05/22 31.Bc3 *(31.Bxd8? Qa2-+)* 31...Nxe4]
31.Bc3∓ Ra2 -0.43/20
[31...R2b3∓ -0.80/20]
32.Kh1 -0.92/20
[32.Re2∓ -0.43/20 deserves consideration. Qa7 33.Rxa2 Qxa2 34.h3]
32...Qd7 33.Re2 Rba8 0.01/21
[33...Qa4∓ -0.75/20 Strongly threatening ...Qa4xd1. 34.Rxa2 Qxa2]
34.Rxa2= The position is equal.
34...Rxa2 35.Bb4 Qb5 36.Bxc5 Qxc5 Endgame KQR-KQR **37.h3 Qc3 38.Rg1 h5 39.Qb1 Rb2 40.Qa1 h4 41.Qa7+ Kg6 42.Qa1 Kg7 43.Qa7+ Kg6 44.Qa1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.32
½-½

53 **C65**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2805**
■ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2741**
Wch Blitz New York (10) 30.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.Nc4 0-0 8.0-0
[8.Ncxe5 Nxe5 9.Nxe5 Qd4-+]
8...Re8 9.a4 a5 10.Kh1 f6
[10...b6 11.Be3 *(11.g3 Nf8 12.Ncxe5 f6 13.d4 Bd6 14.Nxc6 Qd7 15.d5 Rxe4 16.Nd2 Re8 17.Nc4 Ba6 18.b3 Bxc4 19.bxc4 Ng6 20.Nd4 Ne5 21.f4 c5 22.Nb5 Nf7 23.Qd3 Bf8 24.Bd2 Nd6 25.Nc3 Qh3 ½-½* Caruana,F (2772)-Karjakin, S (2786) Zug FIDE GP 2013 (6)*)* 11...Bb4 12.Nfd2 b5 13.axb5 cxb5 14.c3 bxc4 15.cxb4 cxd3 16.bxa5 Ba6 17.Qb3 Nf6 18.h3 Nh5 19.Rfc1 Nf4 20.Rc6 Ne2 21.Qd5 Qb8 22.Rxa6 Rxa6 23.Qxd3 Qxb2 24.Rb1 Rd6 25.Qxe2 1-0 Buchicchio, G (2780)-Hantel,T (2810) event? year? 1968 (6)]
[10...Bf8 11.Be3 b6 12.Nfd2 Nc5 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxf4 f6 15.Qf3 Be6 16.Ne3 Qd7 17.Qg3 Re7 18.e5 f5

19.Nf3 Bd5 20.Nh4 Rf7 21.Bg5 Be6 22.Rf4 g6 23.Bf6 Rg7 24.Raf1 g5 25.Bxg5 1-0 Gurel,E (2624)-Yakubboev,N (2659) Tata Steel-B 87th 2025 (7)]

11.Ng1N

[11.Be3 Bf8 12.Nfd2 Nc5 0.00 Lesson 18: Spanish,B-Spanish Berlin 4. d3 Bc5 5.]

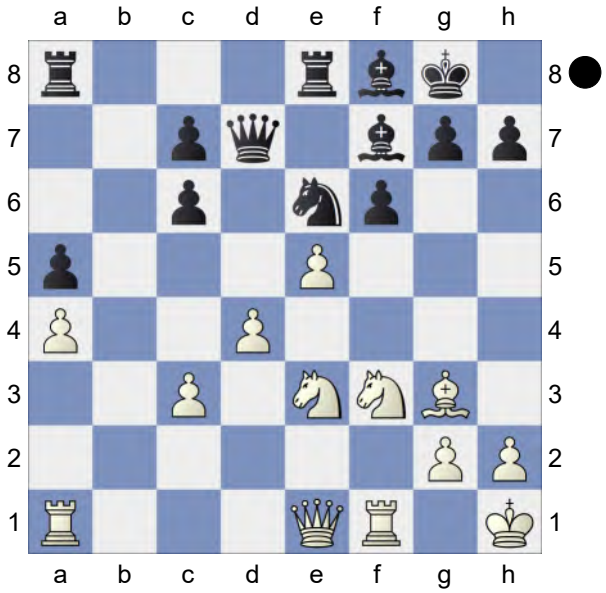
11...Bf8 0.32/19

[11...Nf8= -0.24/18]

12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 Nc5 14.b3 Be6 15.Ne3 b5 16.Qe1 bxa4 17.bxa4 Bf7 18.Bg3 Ne6 19.Nf3 Bb4 20.c3 Bf8 21.d4 Qd7 0.97/18

[Better is 21...Bg6± 0.31/19]

22.e5±



Be7 23.Nf5 0.67/19

[23.exf6± 1.13/18 gxf6 24.h3]

23...Bd8± 24.Qf2 0.39/19 White is more active.

[24.Qb1± 0.78/20]

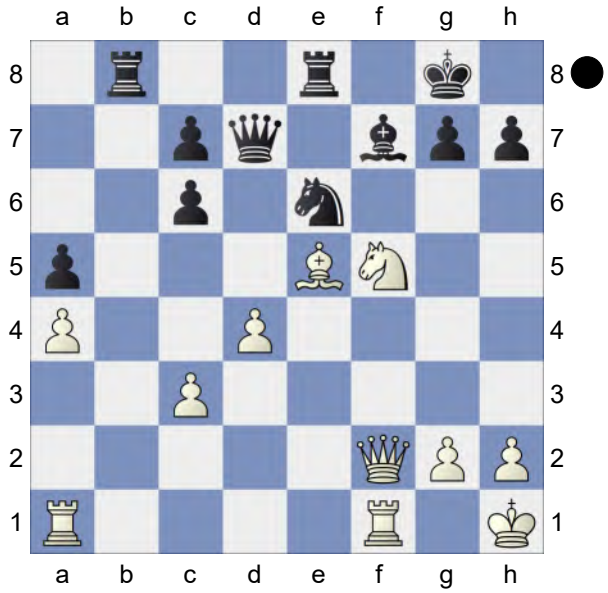
24...Rb8 1.29/20

[24...Rf8± 0.39/19]

25.exf6± Bxf6 26.Ne5 0.13/21 Inhibits Bf7-g6.

[26.Bh4± 1.34/22 Bg6 27.Nh6+ Kh8 28.Bxf6 gxf6 29.Rae1 *(29.Nh4 Bd3±)*]

26...Bxe5= 27.Bxe5



Strongly threatening Nf5-h6+!. **27...Bg6 28.Nh4 Bd3** Strongly threatening ...Re8-f8!. **29.Rfe1 Rf8 30.Qg3 Bc4 31.h3 Rb2 32.Rab1 Ra2 33.Ra1** -0.01/20

[33.Re3!± 0.52/20]

33...Rb2 34.Rab1 Ra2 35.Ra1 -0.01/19

[35.Re3!± 0.37/20 was preferable.]

35...Rb2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.14 (very precise)

½-½

54 **C67**

□ **Aravindh,Chithambaram VR.** **2729**

■ **Navara,D..** **2677**

7th Prague Masters 2025 (8) 06.03.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Kramnik used to be a difficult opponent for Magnus, but while the balance had obviously changed, 2016 had become an extreme, the score being 7-0 with no draws before this game! Only 1 was classical chess, but even so, quite

an extraordinary situation between the world ranking nos. 1 and 2! Inf 109/(190) **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Qe7** White has an edge.

[12...Ne8 13.Bf4 *(13.a4 a5 14.d5 d6 15.Nd2 Bf5 16.Ne4 Bxe4 17.Qxe4 g6 18.Bb5 Ng7 19.Bd2 Qe7 20.Qc4 g5 21.Re1 Be5 22.g3 Qd8 23.Qg4 h6 24.f4 f5 25.Qh3 gxf4 26.gxf4 Bf6 27.Qxh6 Kf7* 1-0 Kumari,P (2582)-Mecelica,E (2548) 2009 (1.2)*)* 13...d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Nf1 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Ne3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qd7 20.Re1 c6 21.Bh6 Bg7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qe7 Rd8 24.h4 h5 25.Re3 b6 26.Qe5+ Kg8 27.Kh2 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2855)-Kramnik,V (2812) Leuven GCT blitz 2016 (14)]

13.Qxe7 Bxe7 14.Bf4 g5 15.Bxd6N

[15.Bg3 Ne8 16.Nd2 d6 17.Re1 Kf8 18.Bd3 h6 19.f4 Ng7 20.fxg5 hxg5 11 Latvian Gambit (2662)-Hafner, R (2639) Chapter 3 (1) Game 21.Bf2 Be6 22.c4 d5 23.c5 a5 24.Bg3 c6 25.a4 Bd8 26.Bd6+ Ke8 27.Nf3 f6 28.h4 g4 29.h5 gxf3 30.Bg6+ Kd7 31.h6 Bc7 32.Bxc7 Nf5 33.Bxf5 Bxf5 34.Bd6 Re8 35.Rf1 Re3 2 Chapter Cg-Games Chapter 8 CG Game]

15...Bxd6 16.Nd2 Bf4 0.83/23

[16...Kf8= 0.18/19 remains equal.]

17.Ne4± Kg7 18.Re1 0.17/22

[18.g3± 0.59/22 might be stronger. f5 19.Re1 *(19.gxf4 fxe4 20.f3 gxf4=)*]

18...d5= 19.Ng3 Bxg3 The position is equal. **20.hxg3** Endgame. KRB-KRB **20...Be6 21.Bd3 h6 22.f4 Re8 23.Kf2 Bd7 24.Rxe8 Bxe8** KB-KB **25.g4 Bd7 26.Kf3 Kf6 27.g3 b6 28.Be2 Ke7 29.Ke3 Kd6 30.Bf3 f6 31.Be2 Be6 32.Bf3 Bd7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless)

½-½

55 **C65**

□ **Giri,Anish** **2733**

■ **So,Wesley** **2747**

Wch Blitz New York (12) 30.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.h3 0-0 8.Nc3 The position is equal. **8...f6N**

[8...a5 9.a4 f6 10.Qe2 Re8 11.Be3 Bd6 12.Nd2 Nf8 13.f3 Ng6 14.Qf2 Be6 15.Ne2 Qd7 16.b3 Bb4 17.Rad1 b6 18.g4 b5 19.h4 bxa4 20.bxa4 Bd6 21.Qh2 c5 22.h5 Nf4 23.Ra1 1-0 Carlsen,M (2855)-So,W (2770) Leuven GCT blitz 2016 (8) Nxe2+ 24.Qxe2 Reb8 25.c4 Rb4 26.Nb1 Rxa4 27.Rxa4 Qxa4 28.Nc3 Qc6 29.Ra1 a4 30.Qc2 Bd7 31.Ra2 Kf7 ½-½ Molina,R (2853)-Sudgen,J (2760) WCC 2004 (2)]

9.Be3 Rf7 10.Ne2 0.07/18

[10.Bxc5± 0.44/20 Nxc5 11.d4 exd4 12.Qxd4 *(12.Nxd4 a5=)*]

10...Bf8 11.Nd2 Nc5 12.f4 exf4! 13.Nxf4 Ne6 14.Ne2 c5 15.b3 a5 16.a4 b6 17.Qe1 g6 18.Rd1 Bg7 19.Nf3 -0.34/20

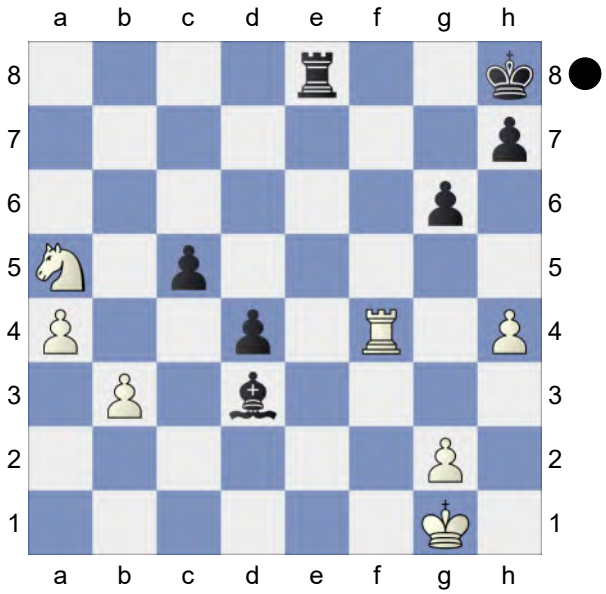
[19.h4= 0.23/19]

19...Qd7 0.08/17

[19...Qd6∓ -0.34/20 deserves

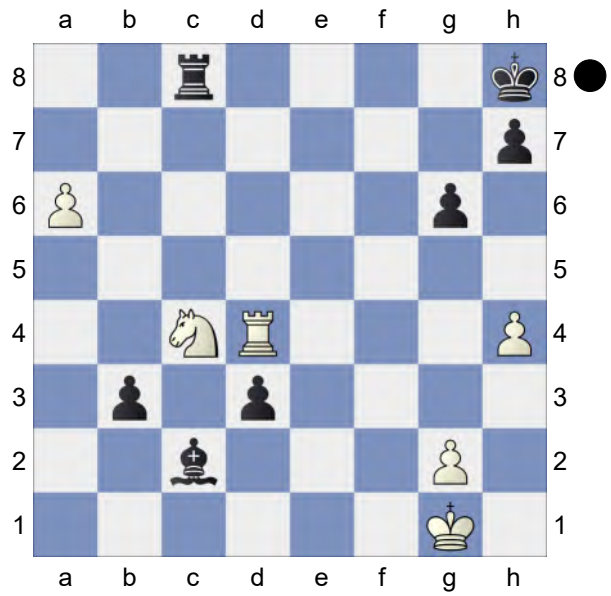
consideration.]
20.Nf4 Nd4 0.32/20
[20...Nxf4= -0.07/17 21.Bxf4 Qe7]
21.Nxd4 -0.38/20
[21.Bxd4± 0.32/20 cxd4 22.Qf2]
21...cxd4∓ 22.Bd2 Bb7 23.Qg3 f5 24.exf5 -1.22/22
[⌓24.Nd5 -0.83/21]
24...Rxf5∓ 25.Ne2 Rc5 26.Rc1 Qc6 27.Qg4 -1.44/22
[⌓27.h4 -0.97/20]
27...Re8
[27...Rxc2 28.Rxc2 Qxc2 29.Qe6+ Kh8 30.Bf4=]
28.Rf2 Rxc2 29.Rxc2 Qxc2 30.Qd7 Qc6 The board is on fire.
[30...Qd1+ 31.Kh2 Qxe2 *(31...Rxe2 32.Qd8+; 31...Be5+? 32.Ng3+-)* 32.Qf7+ *(32.Rxe2 Rxe2 33.Kh1 h5=)* 32...Kh8 33.Rxe2 Rxe2 34.Kg1 Bxg2 *(34...Rxd2 35.Qe8+; 34...Rxg2+ 35.Kf1±)* 35.Bg5+- *(35.Qxc7 h6±)*]
31.Qf7+ Kh8 32.Nf4 Rf8 -0.56/21
[32...Re5∓ -1.35/23 White must now prevent ...Qc6-d6. 33.b4 axb4 *(33...Qxa4? 34.Ne6±)* 34.Bxb4 Bh6 *(34...Qxa4? 35.Bf8+-)*]
33.Qe7∓ Re8 -0.01/19
[Black should try 33...Qd6!∓ -0.66/24 34.Qxd6 cxd6]
34.Qf7= Bc8 35.h4 Qd7 36.Qxd7 Bxd7 37.Nd5 Be5 -0.67/22
[37...Re5∓ -1.27/20 38.Nxc7 Kg8]
38.Bf4!∓ Bxf4 39.Rxf4∓ Endgame KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **39...c5 40.Nxb6** -1.07/23
[40.Rf6∓ -0.67/21]
40...Bf5 41.Nc4 Bxd3 42.Nxa5

(Diagram)



Bc2! Black is more active. **43.b4?** -2.93/21 **d3**
[43...Bxa4 44.bxc5 Rd8 45.c6∓]
[43...cxb4 44.Rxd4 Re4 *(44...Bxa4 45.Rxb4 Bd7 46.Kh2=)* 45.Rxe4 Bxe4 46.Nc4∓]
44.Nc4 cxb4
[44...Bxa4 45.bxc5 Re1+ 46.Kh2=]
45.a5 b3? -0.44/20
[45...Re1+-+ -2.05/20 46.Kh2 Ra1]
46.Rd4 -1.94/20
[Better is 46.a6∓ -0.44/20]
46...Rc8 47.a6? -11.51/20
[47.Nb2 -1.81/21]

(Diagram)



47...Rxc4!-+ Promotion. Black is clearly winning. **48.Rxc4** KR-KB **48...b2 49.Rc8+ Kg7 50.a7 b1Q+**
[50...b1B 51.Rc7+ *(51.a8B d2∓)* 51...Kf6 52.a8Q *(52.a8B d2=)* 52...Bb3 53.Qd8+ *(53.Rxh7 B1a2+-)* 53...Kf5 54.Rc5+ *(54.Rxh7 Ke5 55.Qa5+ Bd5 56.Qc5 Bba2 57.Re7+ Kf5 58.Qf2+ Kg4 59.Qd4+ Kg3 60.Re3+ Bf3 61.Rxf3#)*]
51.Kh2 Qb7
[Inferior is 51...d2 52.a8Q d1Q *(52...d1B 53.Rc7+ Kf6 54.Qd8+ Kf5 55.Rf7+ Ke4 56.Re7+ Kf5 57.Qd5+ Kg4 58.Qg5#)* 53.Qa7+ Kf6 54.Rc6+ Kf5 55.Qf2+ Ke4 56.Rc4+ Kd3 57.Qd4+ Ke2 58.Qe5+ Kd2 59.Qf4+ Ke2 *(59...Ke1 60.Qg3+ Kd2 61.Qg5+ Ke1 62.Qg3+ Kd2 63.Qg5+ Kd3 64.Qd5+ Ke2 65.Qe5+ Kd2 66.Qf4+ Ke1 67.Qg3+=)* 60.Qg4+ Kf1 61.Qf4+ Ke2 62.Qg4+ Kf1 63.Qf4+ Ke1 64.Qg3+ Ke2 65.Qe5+ Kd2 66.Qf4+ Ke2=]
52.a8Q Qxa8 53.Rxa8 d2 54.Rd8 d1Q Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.40
0-1

56 **C65**
□ **Aronian,Levon** **2747**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (1.2) 17.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 CC HeaderStart CC Section C - Sacrifices for damage CC HeaderEnd CC We move on to an even more exciting part of this chapter: the sacrifices that AlphaZero makes to expose the opponent's king. Game: 'Wizard chess' From a sedate anti-Berlin opening, AlphaZero spots a stunning way to inject danger into the position with a double pawn sacrifice: 14... f5 and 16... e3. The result is a sudden attack that delivers at least perpetual. AlphaZero tries for more, but Stockfish holds firm. Game themes: 1. Sacrificing material to free space for attacking pieces 2. Sacrificing material to damage the opponent's king's position
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 CC HeaderStart CC Section C - Sacrifices for damage CC HeaderEnd CC We move on to an even more exciting part of this chapter: the sacrifices that AlphaZero makes to expose the opponent's king. Game: 'Wizard chess' From a sedate anti-Berlin opening, AlphaZero spots a stunning way to inject danger into the position with a double pawn sacrifice: 14... f5 and 16... e3. The result is a sudden attack that delivers at least

perpetual. AlphaZero tries for more, but Stockfish holds firm. Game themes: 1. Sacrificing material to free space for attacking pieces 2. Sacrificing material to damage the opponent's king's position **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.c3**

[6.Nxe5? is the wrong capture. Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]

[6.Nbd2 Nd7 7.Nc4 f6 8.Bd2 Nf8 9.b4 Be7 10.Nh4 g6 11.0-0 Ne6 12.g3 0-0 13.Ng2 b6 14.Kh1 c5 15.a3 Bb7 16.Bh6 Rf7 17.c3 Qd7 18.Qe2 Rd8 19.Rad1 cxb4 20.axb4 c5 ½-½ Firouzja,A (2703)-Ding,L (2836) Lindores Abbey Prelim rapid 2020 (2) ½-½ Firouzja,A (2703)-Ding, L (2836) Lindores Abbey Prelim rapid 2020 (2)]

[6.h3 Be6 7.Nc3 Nd7 8.Ng5 Nf8 9.Qf3 Qe7 10.Nxe6 Nxe6 11.Be3 0-0-0 12.Qf5 Bd4 13.Bd2 Kb8 14.0-0-0 h5 15.h4 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 f6 17.g3 c5 18.f4 Nd4 19.Bxd4 cxd4 20.Rdf1 Qf7 ½-½ 7.d5 ♘h5 8.♕d2 ♕h4_5915 (2456)-6. ♘c3 ♘c6 7. ♗b5 ♘e7_5 (2199) ESP-chT CECLUB Honor 2020 (7) ½-½ 7.d5 ♘h5 8.♕d2 ♕h4_5915 (2456)-6. ♘c3 ♘c6 7. ♗b5 ♘e7_5 (2199) ESP-chT CECLUB Honor 2020 (7)]

6...Bd6 7.h3N '!' is more profitable than 7.0-0 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 7.0-0.

[7.0-0 Be6 8.b3 h6 9.Nbd2 Nd7 10.Nc4 0-0 11.Re1 Re8 12.d4 Bxc4 13.bxc4 c5 14.d5 f5 15.exf5 e4 16.Nd2 e3 17.fxe3 Qh4 18.g3 Bxg3 19.hxg3 Qxg3+ 20.Kh1 Re5 21.Re2 Rxf5 11. Sacrifices for Time,S-Wizard Chess Stockfish Vs 11. Sacrifices for Time,S-Wizard Chess Stockfish Vs 22.Rg2 Qh3+ 23.Rh2 Qxe3 24.Ba3 Re8 25.Qg4 Rf7 26.Qh4 Ree7 27.Rg1 Ne5 28.Rg3 Qe1+ 29.Rg1 Qe3 30.Rg3 Qe1+ 31.Rg1 Qe3 Part Iii Themes In Alphazero-Stockfish Vs Alphazero Part Iii Themes In Alphazero-Stockfish Vs Alphazero]

7...h6 8.Be3 Be6 9.Nbd2 Qe7 'N'

[9...c5 10.Nc4 Bxc4 11.dxc4 Nxe4 12.Qd5 Nf6 13.Qxb7 Rb8 14.Qc6+ Qd7 15.Qxd7+ Kxd7 1-0 Kalegin,E (2482)-Lysyj,I (2644) Voronezh op 16th 2012 (5)]

10.Nf1 -0.49/22

[Better is 10.d4= 0.15/19 Nd7 11.0-0]

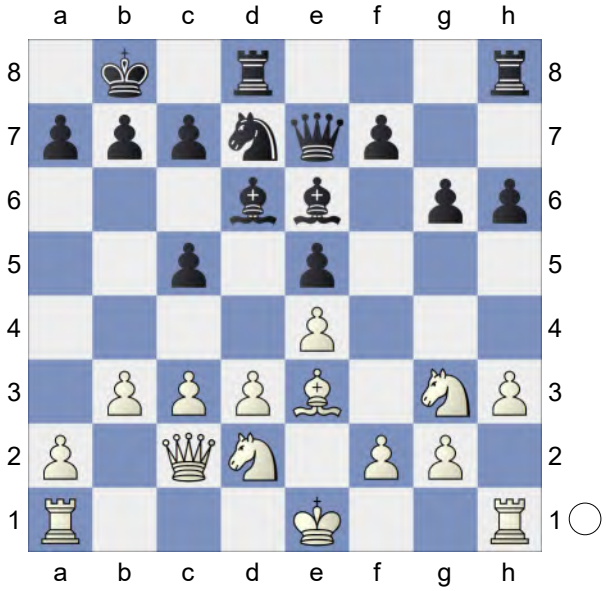
10...0-0-0∓ 11.Ng3 Kb8 12.Qc2 c5 -0.26/18

[12...Nd7∓ -0.76/18]

13.Nd2 g6 14.b3 -0.81/18

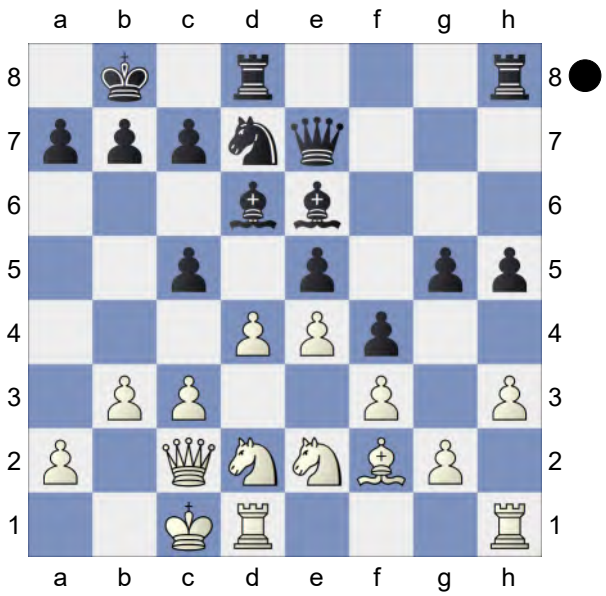
[14.Nc4∓ -0.45/20 is more appropriate.]

14...Nd7∓



...f5 is the strong threat. **15.Ne2 f5** And now ...f4 would win. **16.f3 f4 17.Bf2 g5 18.0-0-0 h5 19.d4**

(Diagram)



cxd4 -0.17/17
[19...c6!∓ -0.84/21]
20.cxd4= exd4 21.Nxd4 The position is equal. **21...Ne5 22.Kb1 Bc8 23.Nf5 Qe6 24.Bd4 b6 25.Nc4 Nxc4 26.Qxc4 Qxc4 27.bxc4 Rhf8 28.Nxd6 Rxd6 29.c5 Rc6 30.cxb6 axb6 31.Rc1 Rxc1+ 32.Rxc1** Endgame. KRB-KRB Endgame. KRB-KRB **32...Kb7 33.Be5 Rf7 34.Kb2 Be6 35.a3 Rd7 36.Kc3 c5 37.Rc2 Kc6 38.Rd2 b5 39.Rxd7 Kxd7** KB-KB **40.Kd2 Bc4 41.Ke1 Ke6 42.Bc3 h4 43.Ba5 Kf7 44.Kf2 b4 45.axb4 cxb4 46.Bxb4 Kg6 47.Be7 Bb5 48.Ke1 Bc4 49.Bd8 Bb5 50.e5 Bc4 51.Kf2 Kf5 52.Bf6 Bd5 53.Be7 Bc4 54.Ke1 Bd5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

57 **C65**
□ **Giri,A..** **2728**
■ **Navara,D..** **2677**
7th Prague Masters 2025 (3) 28.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.Re1 Ng4 8.Re2 f5 9.exf5** The position is equal. **9...Bxf5 10.d4 Bb6 11.Bg5**
[11.h3 Nf6±]
11...Qc8 12.Nbd2 h6 13.Bh4 exd4 14.Bxc6N
[14.cxd4 seems wilder. seems wilder. Nxd4 15.Nxd4 Bxd4 16.h3 Nf6 17.Ne4 Bxe4 18.Qxd4 d5! 19.f3 Bg6! 20.Re7 #10 30. Anti-Berlin 6... d6 7.Re1-7...Ng4]
14...bxc6 15.Nxd4 Ne5 16.Bg3 Bxd4 17.cxd4 Nd3 18.a3 Re8 19.Nc4 Rxe2 20.Qxe2
[20.Qa4? -6.82/19 is more complex. 20.Qd1xe2 -0.04 is more complex. Qe6 (→ ...Re2-e1+) 21.Rf1 Qe4 22.Ne3]
20...Qe6 21.Ne3 Bg6 22.Qc2 c5 23.Qc3 -0.41/20
[23.dxc5= -0.01/22 Nxc5 24.Qc3]
23...cxd4 24.Qxd4 c5 25.Qxd6 Qxd6 26.Bxd6 Rd8! 27.Bg3 Nxb2 28.h3 c4 0.31/19
[28...Kh7= -0.06/18]
[28...a6 -0.06/20 feels stronger.]
29.Be5± Nd3 30.Nxc4 Bf7 31.Bc7 Rd7 32.Ne5 Nxe5 0.94/23
[Black should try 32...Rxc7± 0.40/22 33.Nxd3 Rc3]
33.Bxe5± White is better. **33...Bb3 34.f3 Rd1+ 35.Rxd1 Bxd1 36.Kf2 h5 37.g4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)

Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless). Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

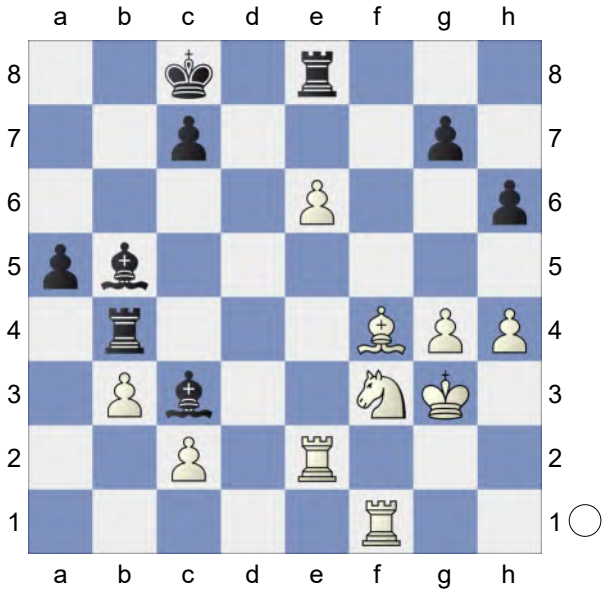
58 **C84**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2731**
■ **So,Wesley** **2747**
CCT Final RR 2024 rapid (7.1) 19.12.24
[Kitty Kat]

C84: Closed Ruy Lopez: Unusual White 6th moves We have seen in a couple of examples in my favorite Breyer system what happens when White gets the dream setup; now it is time to look at what can happen when things get out of control in a similar structure! The following game is extremely instructive.
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.c3 0-0 7.Re1 a6 8.Ba4
[8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Qc2 c5 13.Be3 c4 14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Bg4 16.Nd2 Qd7 17.Nf1 Bf5 18.Qd2 Rab8 19.Bg5 Ba3 20.Ng3 Bg6 21.f4 h6 22.Bf6 Qg4 ½-½ Karjakin,S (2788)-Ivanchuk,V (2768) WchT 8th Ningbo 2011 (6.1)]
8...b5N
[8...Re8 9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.h3 b5 11.Bc2 Bb7 12.d4 g6 13.a3 Nb8 14.d5 c6 15.c4 Nbd7 16.a4 Qc7 17.b3 Rec8 18.Ra2 bxc4 19.bxc4 a5 20.Nf1 Ba6 21.Ne3 Nc5 22.Nd2 cxd5 23.cxd5 4.1) Model Games: Zaitsev-Bre-Alireza Firouzja Magnus Carls Super Grandmaster Strategy: Leko's Ruy 2024]
9.Bc2 d5 9...d5 scores better than 9...Re8. 9...d5 punktet besser als 9...Te8.
10.Nbd2 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.dxe4 Be6 13.Be3 Qxd1 The position is equal. **14.Rexd1 f6 15.Ne1** 'N' 'N'
[15.Bb3 Bxb3 16.axb3 Rfd8 17.Rd5 Kf7 18.Kf1 Ke6 19.Rad1 Na5 20.Rxd8 Rxd8 21.Rxd8 Bxd8 ½-½ Rotte,P (1907)-Miraglia Ubals,D NED-CUB email 2017 [29]]
15...Na5 16.Nd3 Rfd8 17.Nc5 Bxc5 18.Bxc5 Kf7 19.Kf1 Nb7 20.Be3 Na5 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.b3 g5 23.Ke2 h5 24.f3 h4 25.Kf2 c5 26.Ke2 Nb7 27.a4 b4 28.cxb4 cxb4 29.a5 Rc8 30.Bd3 Rc6
[30...Bxb3 31.Bxa6 Rc2+ 32.Bd2±]
31.Ra4 Bxb3 32.Rxb4 Nxa5 33.Bb6 Nc4 34.Bf2 Ba2 35.Ra4 Bb3 36.Rb4 Ba2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

59 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3038**
■ **TheFreshman1902** **3031**
Rapid 27.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

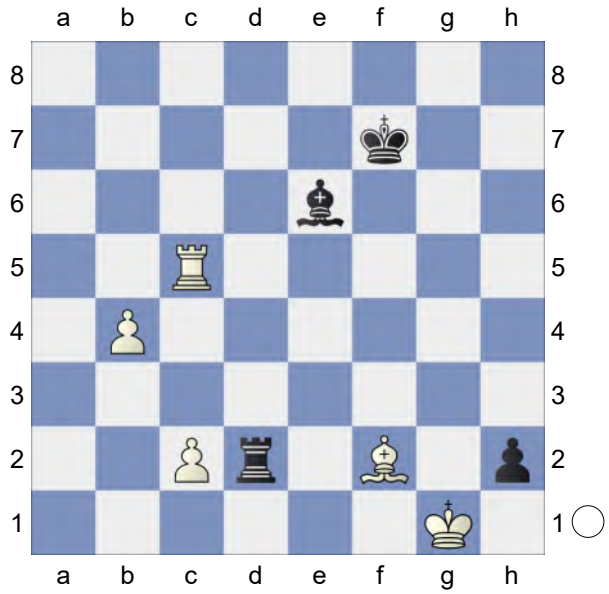
Blitz 8min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Be7 10.Rd1+ Bd7 11.a4N**
[11.Nc3 Kc8 *(11...Ke8 12.g4 Nh4 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Bf4 Rd8 15.Kg2 Be7 16.Be3 a5 17.f4 h5 18.f5 hxg4 19.hxg4 g6 20.Rh1 Rf8 21.f6 Bb4 22.Ne4 Be6 23.c3 Bd5 24.Kf3 Bd6 25.c4 Bxe4+ 26.Kxe4* 4.d4 ?f6 5.?c4 (2751)-Tymrakiewicz,R (2710) Rakovica 54/(21) 2021 CBM 03 [Nyback/Meyer,CD] 1-0 (32)*)* 12.Bf4

(12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxe7 Nxe7 14.Rd2 c5 15.Rad1 Be6 16.Ne1 Ng6 17.Nd3 b6 18.Ne2 Bxa2 19.b3 c4 20.Ndc1 cxb3 21.cxb3 Bb1 22.f4 Kb7 23.Nc3 Bf5 24.g4 Bc8 25.Nd3 h5 26.f5 Ne7 Chapter Carlsen'S Campaign-Games Game 6 (64))
12...b6 13.Rd2 Nh4 14.Nxh4 Bxh4 15.Ne4 h6 16.g4 Be7 17.Ng3 g6 18.Ne4 Be6 19.Nf6 a5 20.a3 a4 21.Re1 h5 22.Kg2 hxg4 23.hxg4 Ra5 24.Kg3 Rb5 25.c3 Rd8 Chapter C50-Games Game 6 (38)]
[11.g4 Nh4 12.Nxh4 Bxh4 13.Nd2 Kc8 14.Ne4 b6 15.Bg5 Bxg5 16.Nxg5 h6 17.Nxf7 Re8 18.f4 Be6 19.Nxh6 gxh6 20.f5 Bxf5 21.gxf5 Rxe5 22.Rf1 Kd7 23.Rad1+ Ke7 24.Rfe1 Kf6 25.Rxe5 Kxe5 10.?a3 b6 11.ba5 ?h5_7469 (2771)-Molina,R (2881) Szeged 2014 200 Traps In The Opening [Nataf,Igor Alexandre] ½-½ (38)]
[11.Bg5 Kc8 12.g4 h6 13.Bxe7 Nxe7 14.Kh2 Re8 15.Nbd2 b6 16.Re1 c5 17.Ne4 Bc6 18.h4 Kb7 19.Rad1 Ng6 20.h5 Nf8 21.Kg3 Re7 22.Rd3 Rae8 23.Ned2 g6 24.Rde3 gxh5 25.g5 hxg5 2 b4 and 2 a3 (2692)-Herrmann,M (2606) corr 2011 CBM 104 theory [Dragan Solak] 0-1 (44)]
11...a5 12.g4 Nh4 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Ra3 Ke7 15.Be3 Rhd8 16.Nd2 Ke8 17.f4 c5 0.39/16
[17...b6= 0.03/18]
18.Bxc5± Bc6 19.Be3 f6 20.Rf1 fxe5 21.fxe5 Be7! A strong pair of Bishops. **22.Raa1 Rd5 23.Nf3 Rad8 24.b3 Bb4 25.Rf2 h6 26.Kh2 Bc3 27.Raf1 Kd7 28.h4 b5 29.axb5 Bxb5 30.Rb1 Kc8 31.Bf4 Bc6 32.e6 Rc5 33.Be3 Rcd5 34.Bf4!** Against R8d6 **34...Rb5 35.Rbf1 Re8 36.Re2 Rb4 37.Kg3** White wants to play Re3. **37...Bb5**



38.Re3 Bxf1 39.Rxc3 Rxe6 40.Bxc7 Rbe4 41.Bxa5+ Kd7 42.Nd2 Re1 0.40/19
[42...R4e5= 0.08/21]
43.h5 0.01/20
[Reject 43.Nxf1 Rxf1 44.Rc7+ Ke8=]
[43.Rc7+± 0.40/19 was preferrable. Ke8 44.Rxg7 *(44.Nxf1 Rxf1 45.Rxg7 Re3+ 46.Kg2 Rc1=)*]
43...Be2!= 44.Rc7+ Ke8! 45.Rc8+ Kd7! 46.Rc7+ Ke8! 47.Rc8+ Kf7 aiming for ...Rg1+. **48.Bb4 g5**
[48...Rg1+? 49.Kf2 Kf6 50.Kxg1+-]
49.hxg6+ Kxg6 50.Nf3 Against Rg1+ **50...Rc1 51.Ba3 Rh1 52.Nh4+ Kf6 53.Rf8+ Ke5 54.Ng2 Kd4** 0.34/20
[54...Rf1= 0.00/21]
55.Bb4!± Black must now prevent c3+. **55...h5 56.Rd8+** 0.01/24
[56.Nf4± 0.43/21 Bxg4 57.Nxe6+ Bxe6 58.Rd8+ Ke4 59.Re8]
56...Ke4= 57.Bc3! Bxg4 58.Rd4+ Kf5 59.Rd5+ Ke4
[59...Kg6!? 60.Nf4+ Kf7 61.Nxe6 Kxe6 62.Re5+ Kd6=]

60.Rd4+ Kf5⇄ Black is not keeping still **61.Rd5+ Kg6 62.Nf4+ Kf7 63.Nxe6 Bxe6** Endgame KRB-KRB **64.Rc5 h4+ 65.Kg2 Rc1 66.Bd2 h3+ 67.Kh2 Rf1** Hoping for ...Rf2+. **68.Be3** Inhibits Rf2+. **68...Re1** Black has compensation. **69.Bf2 Re2 70.Kg1** -1.27/23
[70.Kg3!= -0.17/23]
70...Rd2 -0.17/20
[70...h2+∓ -1.27/23 71.Kxh2 Rxf2+ 72.Kg3 Rf6]
71.b4 -1.18/24
[71.Rh5= -0.17/20]
71...h2+!∓

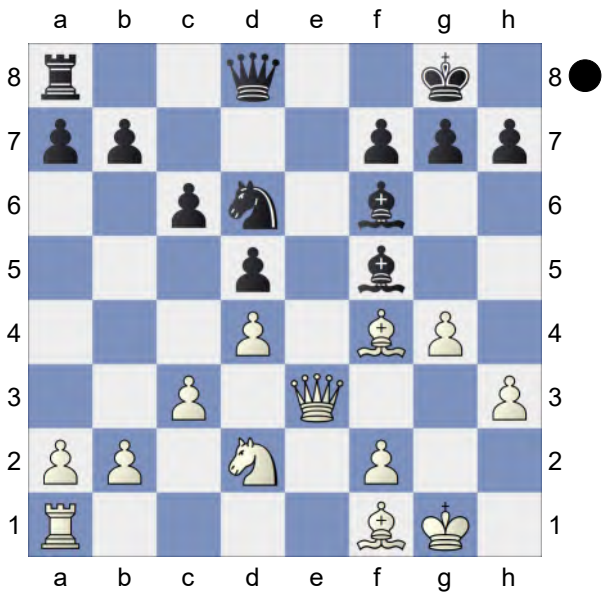


Decoy **72.Kxh2** And now Kg3 would win. **72...Rxf2+** KRB-KR **73.Kg3 Rf5** 0.00/32
[73...Rf1∓ -1.34/20]
74.Rxf5+= The position is equal. **74...Bxf5** KB-KPP **75.c4 Kg8 76.Kf4 Bh3 77.Ke5 Bf1 78.c5 Kf7 79.Kd6** Threatens to win with c6. **79...Ke8! 80.Kc7 Bd3 81.c6 Ke7 82.Kb8** c7 is the strong threat. **82...Kd6 83.c7 Bf5 84.b5** Threatening mate with b6. **84...Kc5 85.b6 Kxb6 86.c8B** Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

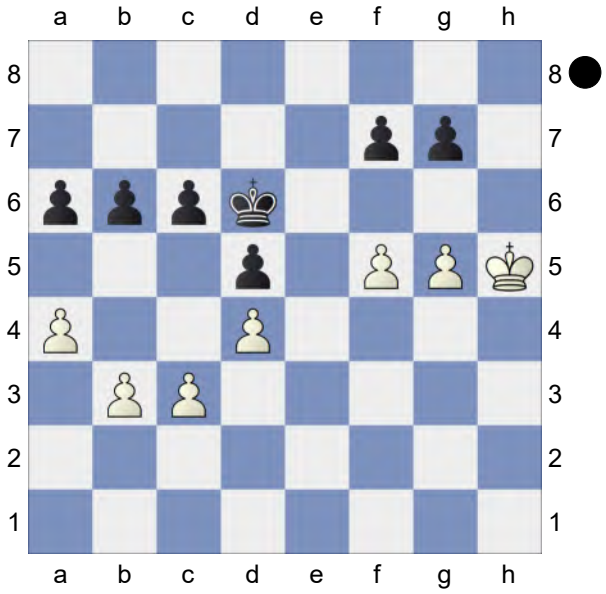
60 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2831**
■ **So,Wesley** **2747**
Tata Steel India Blitz (12) 17.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** The main line 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. Die Hauptvariante 10...Te8 punktet besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 Nd6**
[14...c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Nd6 18.Qe3 Bg4 19.Re1 Qf8 20.h3 Bd7 0.75/20 *(20...Bxf3± 0.34/20 21.Qxf3 Qd8)* 21.g4 0.31/20 *(21.Re2± 0.75/20)* 21...Re8± 22.Ne5 Be6 23.Qg3 0.07/22 *(* White should try *23.b3± 0.60/19)* 23...g5= 24.Bc1 Bd8 25.Nf3 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2859)-So,W (2760) Meltwater Tour Final rapid 2022 (1.1)]
15.Qe3 Bf5 16.h3 c6 17.g4

(Diagram)



Bg6 18.Re1 h6 19.Nf3N
[19.Bg2 a5 20.Be5 -0.37/18 *(20.Bf1= 0.01/19)* 20...Be7 -0.01/19 *(20...Bg5∓ -0.37/18 21.Qe2 Qe7)* 21.Bxg7= Bg5 22.f4 Kxg7 23.fxg5 Qxg5 24.Qf2 Re8 25.Rxe8 Nxe8 ½-½ McDonald,N (2410)-Parligras,M (2552) BCF-chT 2223 (4NCL) 2022 (10.1)]
19...Be4 20.Ne5N Bg5 21.f3 Bxf4 22.Qxf4 Bh7 23.Bd3 Bxd3 24.Nxd3 Qc7 25.Nc5 Rd8 26.h4 b6 27.Nd3 Kf8 0.82/22
[27...Rd7± 0.34/19]
28.Ne5 White has more active pieces.
28...Kg8 29.g5 hxg5 0.99/23
[29...h5± 0.63/21 is more appropriate.]
30.hxg5± Threatens to win with Kg1-g2.
30...Nc4 31.Kg2 0.26/21
[31.Kf2!± 0.65/20 Nxe5 32.dxe5 *(32.Rxe5 Rf8±)*]
31...Nxe5= 32.Rxe5 Endgame KQR-KQR **32...Qd7** Prevents Re5-e8+. **33.Qe3 Kf8** Prevents Re5-e7 **34.Kg3 Re8 35.Rxe8+ Qxe8 36.Qxe8+ Kxe8** KP-KP **37.Kf4 Kd7 38.Ke5 Ke7 39.a4 a6 40.b3 Kd7 41.f4 Ke7 42.Kf5 Kd7 43.Kg4 Ke6 44.f5+ Kd6 45.Kh5** -1.31/25
[45.Kf4= -0.01/24 remains equal.]



45...Ke7 -0.01/23
[Black should try 45...a5!∓ -1.31/25]
46.b4 The position is equal. **46...b5 47.a5 Kf8 48.Kg4**
[48.g6!? f6□ 49.Kg4=]
48...Ke7 49.Kf4 Kd6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) / Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

61 **C67**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2731**
■ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2680**
87th Tata Steel Masters (13.6) 02.02.25
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Svidler,P: 'Inf 96/236' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ne7 10.h3** Black is weak on the dark squares **10...Bd7**

[10...Ng6 11.Bg5+ Ke8 12.Rad1 Bd7 13.Nd4 h6 14.Be3 h5 15.f4 h4 16.f5 Nxe5 17.f6 Rh5 18.Ne4 g6 19.Bf4 c5 20.Nf3 Nxf3+ 21.Rxf3 Be6 22.Rfd3 c4 23.R3d2 c6 24.Ng5 Bc5+ 25.Kh2 1-0 Svidler,P (2765)-Topalov,V (2801) Morelia/Linares 23rd 2006 (1)]

[10...Bf5 11.Nd4 Bg6 12.Bg5 Kc8 13.Rad1 c5 14.Nde2 Nc6 15.f4 h6 16.Bh4 Bxc2 17.Rd2 Bh7 18.Rfd1 b6 19.Kh2 g5 20.fxg5 Bg7 21.gxh6 Bxe5+ 22.Bg3 Bxg3+ 23.Nxg3 Bg6 24.Rd7 Ne5 25.R7d5 1-0 Ganguly,S (2654)-Wang,R (2341) Edmonton 11th 2016 (7)]

11.Ne4 h6N

[11...Ng6 12.Nfg5 Ke8 13.f4 Nh4 14.Bd2 h6 15.Nf3 1-0 Bandza,A-Vasilenko,A URS corr USSR 1988]

12.Re1 -0.24/21

[⌓12.Nc5 0.18/20 Bc8 13.Rd1+ Ke8 14.Nd3]

12...b6= Black has an edge. **13.Bd2 Kc8 14.Rad1 a5 15.Ng3 c5 16.Nh5 Nd5** -0.01/20

[16...Kb7∓ -0.75/21]

17.a3! Be6 18.g4 -0.49/21

[18.c4= -0.01/23 Ne7 19.Re4]

18...b5 19.Kg2 Ra6 20.Kg3 b4 21.Ra1 -0.92/21

[White should try 21.a4∓ -0.33/21]

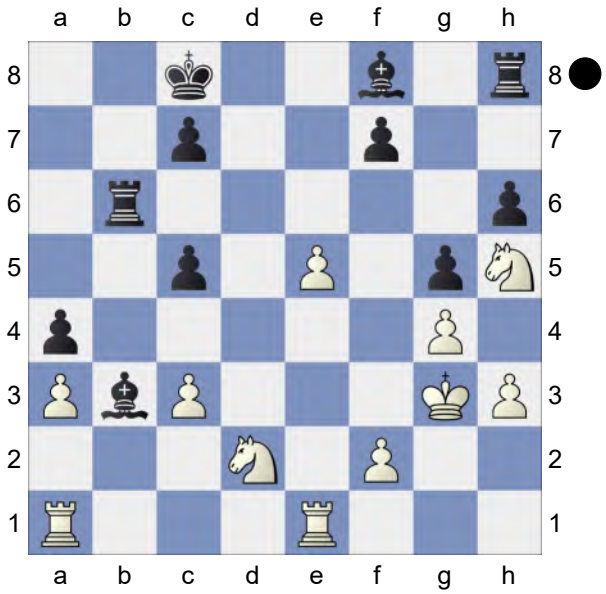
21...a4∓ 22.c3 bxc3 23.Bxc3 Nxc3 24.bxc3 Rb6 25.Nf4 Bb3 26.Nd2 -0.97/22

[26.h4∓ -0.48/22 might be stronger.]

26...g5 27.Nh5 -1.77/21

[27.Nd3∓ -0.71/22]

(Diagram)



27...Be7!-+ 28.Re3 -2.55/24

[⌓28.Nxb3 -1.99/22 axb3 29.Kg2]

28...Rd8 29.Nxb3 Rxb3 -0.70/27

[29...axb3-+ -2.10/26 30.c4 b2]

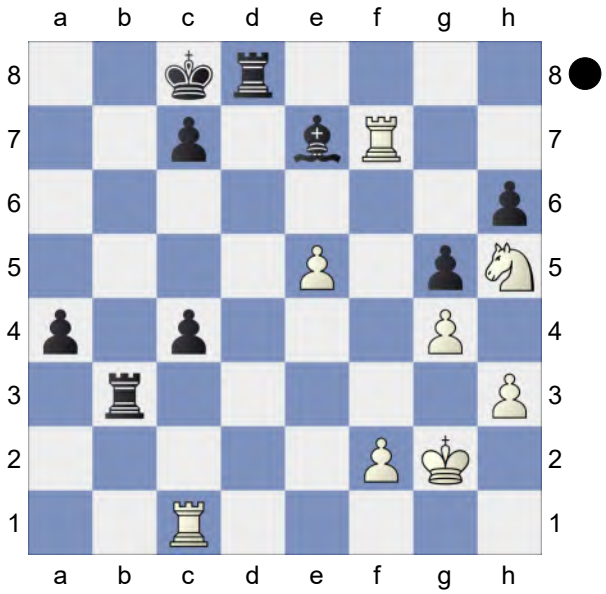
30.Rf3∓ c4 31.Rxf7 Rxa3

[31...Rxc3+?! 32.Kg2 Bc5 *(32...Bxa3 33.e6±; 32...Rxa3 33.Rc1±)* 33.e6=]

32.Rb1 Rxc3+ 33.Kg2 Rb3 0.01/21

[33...Bc5∓ -1.24/23 34.Rb5 Rf8]

34.Rc1!⇄



White is not keeping still **34...a3! 35.Rxe7 c3**

[35...a2!? 36.Ra1□ *(36.Rxc4? a1Q-+)* 36...Rd2=]
36.Ng7 a2 37.Ne6 Rb1 38.Rxc7+
[38.Rxc3? a1Q 39.Rexc7+ *(39.Rcxc7+? Kb8-+)* 39...Kb8 40.Nxd8 Rg1+ 41.Kf3 *(41.Kh2? Rh1+ 42.Kg3 Qg1+* Deflection *43.Kf3 Rxh3+ 44.Ke4 Qe1+ 45.Kf5 Rxc3-+)* 41...Qd1+ 42.Ke4 Qxd8-+]
38...Kb8 39.R7xc3
[39.R1xc3? a1Q 40.Nxd8 Rg1+ 41.Kf3 *(41.Kh2? Rh1+ 42.Kg3 Qg1+* Overworked Piece *43.Kf3 Rxh3+ 44.Ke4 Qe1+ 45.Kf5 Rxc3-+)* 41...Qd1+ 42.Ke4 Qxd8-+]
39...a1Q 40.Rb3+ Rxb3 41.Rxa1 Endgame KRR-KRN **41...Rd5 42.Nf8 Rd8 43.Ne6 Rd5 44.Rc1 Rb6**
[44...Rxe5? perishes. 45.Nd4 *(45.Nc5 Rb7±)* 45...Rbb5 46.Nxb5 Rxb5 47.Rc6+-]
45.Nf8 Rd8 46.Nh7 Re6 47.Re1 Rd4 48.Nf6 Kc8 49.Re3 Kd8 50.Kg3 Ke7 51.Nh5 Rd5 52.f4 Kf7 53.Rf3 gxf4+ Remove Defender **54.Nxf4 Rdxe5 55.Nxe6+** The position is equal. **55...Kxe6** KR-KR. White is a pawn up. **56.Kh4 Ke7** Against Rf8 **57.Rf5 Re3 58.Rh5 Re6 59.Rf5** and Kh5 would now be decisive **59...Re3 60.Rh5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise) **60...Re6**
½-½

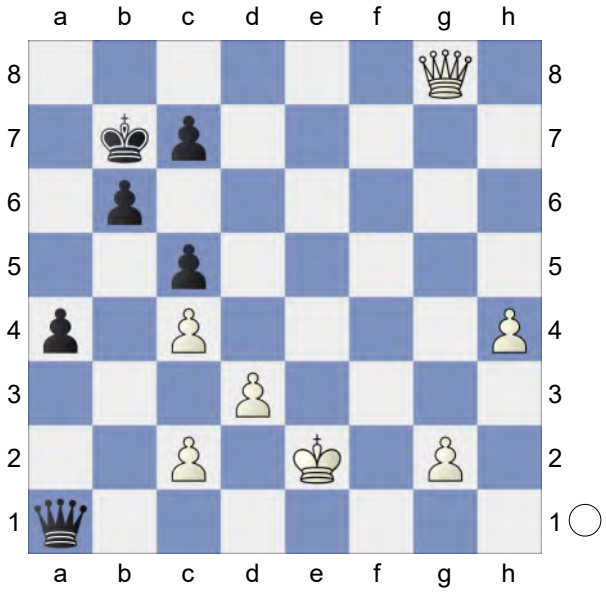
62 **C65**
□ **Buletten-Karl** **3011**
■ **bird_xx** **3062**
Blitz 16.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6** The position is equal. **6.0-0 Nd7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nc4 f6 9.a4N**
[9.Qe1 Re8 10.Qc3 Bd6 11.Be3 Nf8 12.b4 Qe7 13.Rab1 Ne6 14.Na5 Nd8 15.Nd2 Bd7 16.f4 exf4 17.Bxf4 b6 18.Bxd6 cxd6 19.Nac4 d5 20.Ne3 Qd6 21.Rbe1 d4 22.Qb3+ Be6 23.Nf5 Qd7 Kotronias,V (2471)-Isik,A (2436) Ayvalik 2023 ½-½ (46)]
[9.Kh1 Nb6 *(9...Re8 10.Ne3 Nf8 11.Rg1 Bxe3 12.Bxe3 Bg4 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Ne6 15.Qe2 c5 16.a4 a5 17.b3 b6 18.Raf1 Qd6 19.Qd2 Rad8 20.f4 exf4 21.Bxf4 Nxf4 22.Rxf4 Re5 23.Rgf1 Qe6 24.Qf2* Osnos,V (2768)-Ferri,S (2729) Wijk aan Zee 2023 Inf 73 [John Watson] 1-0 (83)*; 9...a5 10.Nh4 Nb6 11.Be3 Bd4 12.Nxb6 cxb6 13.Qc1 Be6 14.f4 exf4 15.Bxd4 Qxd4 16.Rxf4 c5 17.Rf1 a4 18.Nf3 Qd6 19.Qe3 b5 20.h3 b4 21.b3 b6* Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence-5.Bc6 dc6 6.0-0 Nd7 Survey 2018 Lexikon18 [Ftacnik]*)* 10.Ne3 Be6 11.Rg1 Kh8 12.g4 a5 13.Qe2 a4 14.Nf5 Bd6 15.Rg3 g6 16.Bh6 Rf7 17.Nxd6 cxd6 18.d4 Nd7 19.c4 exd4 20.Nxd4 Qe7 21.Bd2 Ne5 22.Rc1 Bxc4 23.Rxc4 Nxc4 Osnos,V (2909)-Ferri,S (2773) Merida 2022 MAINB (21) [John Watson] ½-½ (67)]

9...a5 10.Nh4 g6 11.Kh1 b6 12.Qg4 Kh8! 13.Nf3 Be7 14.Qg3 Nc5 15.Ng1 Ba6 16.b3 Bxc4 17.bxc4 Qd7 18.f4 exf4 19.Bxf4 Ne6 20.Qh3 Bd6 21.Ne2 Rae8 22.Nd4 Rf7 23.Nxe6 Rxe6 24.Bxd6 Qxd6 25.Rf2 Kg7 26.Raf1 Re5 27.Qe3 Qd7 28.h4 c5 29.Qg3 Ree7 30.Rf5 Re6 31.e5 Rxe5 32.Rxe5 fxe5 33.Qxe5+= Endgame KQR-KQR **33...Kg8 34.Kg1 Rxf1+**

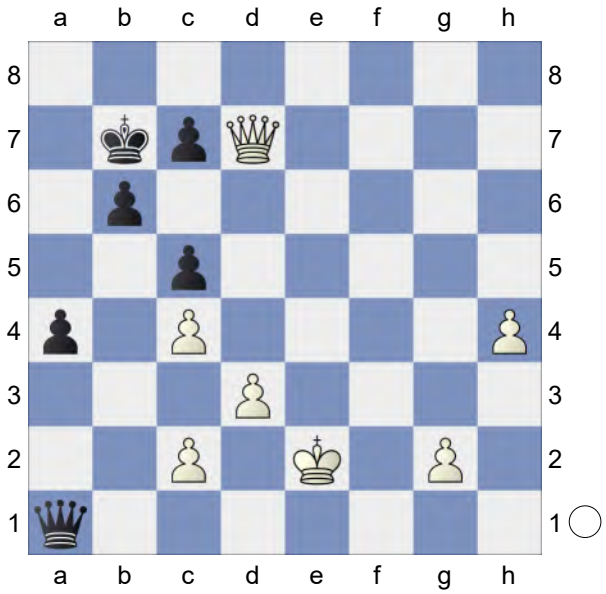
[34...Re7 keeps more tension. 35.Qf4 Qe8 36.h5 Re5]

35.Kxf1 Qxa4 KQ-KQ **36.Qe6+ Kf8 37.Qf6+ Ke8** Threatens to win with ... Kd7. **38.Qh8+ Kd7 39.Qxh7+ Kc8 40.Qxg6** Strongly threatening h5. **40...Qa1+ 41.Ke2 a4 42.Qg8+ Kb7!**



And now ...Qe5+ would win. **43.Qd5+ Ka7 44.Qd7 Kb7** Hoping for ...Qe5+. **45.Qd5+ Ka7 46.Qd7 Kb7**

(Diagram)



White must now prevent ...Qe5+. **47.Kd2 a3 48.Qd5+ Kb8 49.Qd8+ Kb7 50.Qd5+ Kb8** An interesting draw.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)

½-½

63	**C67**
☐ **Buletten-Karl**	**3004**
■ **Mr-Chess-Berserk**	**2994**
Blitz	16.08.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** The position is equal. **13.c3 d5 14.Nd2**

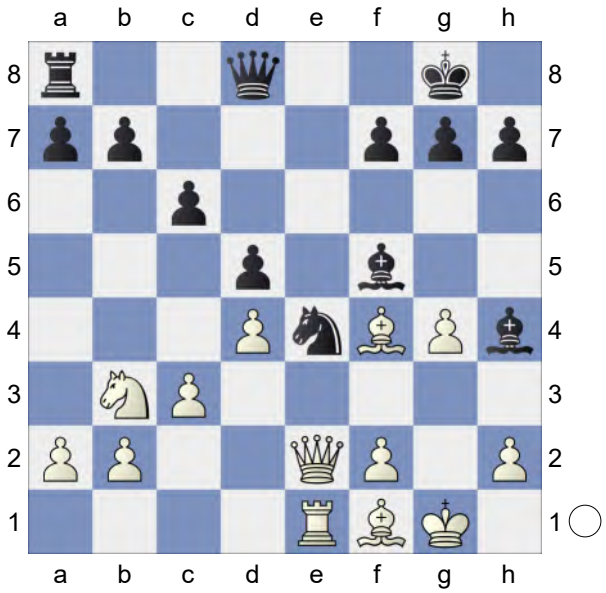
[14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Qe2 c6 17.Re1 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nf3 Ng7 20.Be5 Ne6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5 Ng7 25.Qxe8+ Nxe8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxe8 Kxe8 Carlsen,M (2870)-Anand,V (2775) (m/

8) 119/(106) 2013]

14...Bf5 15.Qe2 Nd6N

[15...c6 16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Re1 a5 20.Nc5 Nxc5 21.Qe8+ 1-0 Paravyan,D (2612)-Lazavik,D (2553) Aimchess Play In op rapid 2023 (7)]

16.Re1 c6 17.Nb3 Ne4 18.g4 Bh4



19.f3 Bf2+ 20.Kg2 Bxg4! 21.fxg4 Bxe1 22.Qxe1 Qf6 23.Bg3 Re8 24.Nc5 Qg5 25.Nxe4

[25.Nxb7? Nd6 26.Qd1 *(26.h4? Qxg4 27.Qf2 Nxb7-+)* 26...Nxb7-+]

25...Rxe4

[25...Qxg4? 26.Nf6+ gxf6 27.Qxe8++-]

26.Qd1

[26.Be2 h5=]

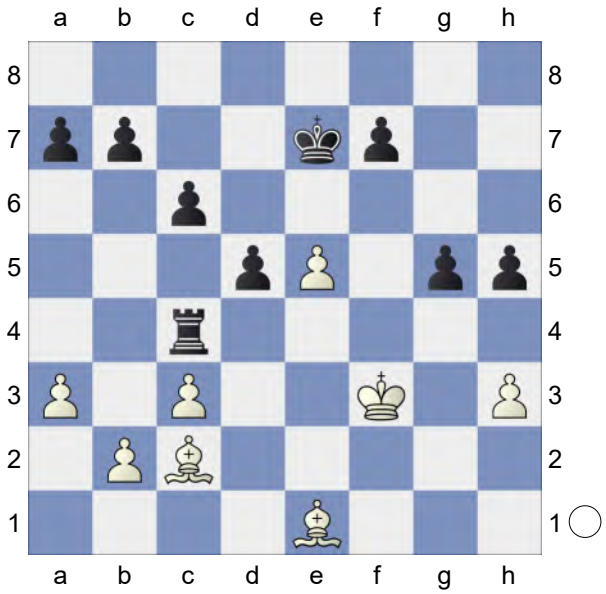
26...Rxg4 27.Bd3! g6! 28.Qe1! Qf4 0.41/27

[28...h5!= 0.01/26 29.h3 Rxg3+ 30.Qxg3 Qd2+ 31.Kh1 Qc1+ 32.Qg1 Qxb2]

29.Qe8+± Kg7 30.Qe5+ Qxe5 31.dxe5 Ra4 32.a3 White has compensation. **32...Kf8 33.Bc2** Black is now going downhill. **33...Rc4** 1.60/27

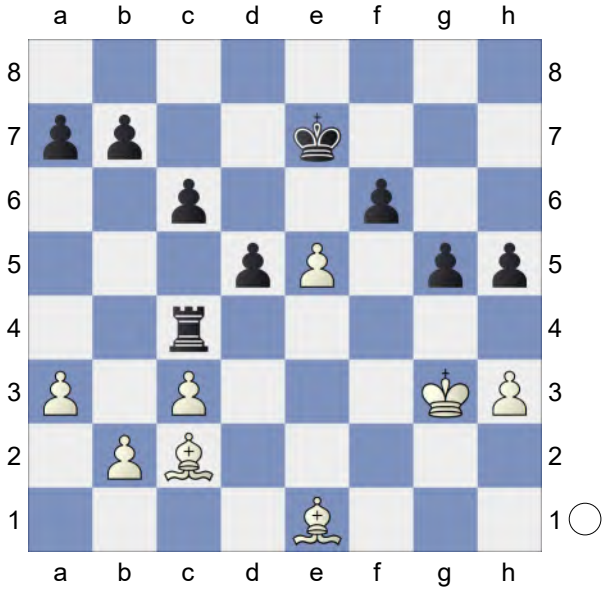
[33...Ra5!± 0.51/22]

34.Kf3± Ke7 35.Be1 h5 36.h3! g5



37.Kg3 Black must now prevent Bd2. **37...f6** 2.57/24

[37...Ke6± 1.34/24]



38.Bd2!+- fxe5 3.26/25

[38...b6 2.07/25 was worth a try. 39.b3 Rc5]

39.Bxg5+ Kf7 40.Bd2 This pair of bishops is nice. **40...Kf6?** 7.66/28

[40...a5 3.44/27 41.b4 axb4 42.axb4 h4+ 43.Kg2 Kf6]

41.b3 Rc5 42.b4 Rc4 43.Bd3 b5

44.Bxc4 bxc4 Endgame KB-KP **45.Be3 a6 46.Kh4 Kg6 47.Bd2 d4 48.Kg3 Kf5 49.Kf3 d3 50.Be3 Ke6 51.Ke4 h4 52.Bd2 Kf6 53.Be1 Ke6 54.Ke3** [54.Bxh4? perishes. d2 55.Ke3 d1Q-+ *(55...d1R? 56.Ke2-+)*] **54...Kd5 55.Bxh4 Kd6 56.Be1 Ke6 57.Ke4 Kd6 58.h4** White wants to mate with h5. **58...Kc7 59.h5** White mates. **59...Kb7 60.h6 Kb6 61.a4 Kb7 62.h7 a5 63.h8Q d2 64.Bxd2 c5 65.Kd5 e4 66.Qg7+ Kb6 67.bxc5+ Ka6 68.Kc6 e3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.88 **69.Qb7# 1-0**

64 **C67**
□ **RipTorn** **3060**
■ **yobot_v2** **3058**
Rapid 15.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 10min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 One of the main problems of modern opening preparation is how to break Black's walls in a series of fashionable hyper-solid lines. At first sight, this may seem to be a perennial problem, but things have not always been like this. Fashion and general approach change with the alternation of generations. In the best years of Tal and Kasparov, for instance, one common question was how to avoid being smashed tactically in the King's Indian! Moreover, some of Black's most reliable openings of today enjoyed a rather questionable reputation in the past. ** After the supposedly warming-up days, the third round scheduled matches between teams of similar strength already, which makes natural the emergence of solid variations. The good news for those believing in the inexhaustible character of our favourite game is that in a few important games between strong players Black's walls did not withstand White's pressure. The first game of the today's selection features what may be the main source for White's nightmares: the Berlin Defence. In the past, this was considered a modest variation, suited only for players wth good defensive skills in desperate need of a draw with Black. Things have changed quite a lot over the past decades... Marin,Mihail: 'Marin,M: 'One of the main problems of modern opening preparation is how to break Black's walls in a series of fashionable hyper-solid lines. At first sight, this may seem to be a perennial problem, but things have not always been like this. Fashion and general approach change with the alternation of generations. In the best years of Tal and Kasparov, for instance, one common question was how to avoid being smashed tactically in the King's Indian! Moreover, some of Black's most reliable openings of today enjoyed a rather questionable reputation in the past. ** After the supposedly warming-up days, the third round scheduled matches between teams of similar strength already, which makes natural the emergence of solid variations. The good news for those believing in the inexhaustible character of our favourite game is that in a few important games between strong players Black's walls did not withstand White's pressure. The first game of the today's selection features what may be the main source for White's nightmares: the Berlin Defence. In the past, this was

considered a modest variation, suited only for players wth good defensive skills in desperate need of a draw with Black. Things have changed quite a lot over the past decades...'' Current Reputation: Playable for both sides I have always found it difficult to refer to novel ideas in the Berlin Defense as opening novelties, since they technically belong to late middlegames, or even endgames. However, terminology aside, one can hardly deny the importance of such ideas (especially for White), as Black's resilience in this opening line has acquired the status of almost mythical proportions. Naturally, the majority of important developments in the Berlin Defense occurs during top-tier events, so it's no wonder that the featured game between Kasimdzhanov and Radjabov took place in the second round of the FIDE Grand Prix event that is currently under way in Baku. Marin, Mihail: 'One of the main problems of modern opening preparation is how to break Black's walls in a series of fashionable hyper-solid lines. At first sight, this may seem to be a perennial problem, but things have not always been like this. Fashion and general approach change with the alternation of generations. In the best years of Tal and Kasparov, for instance, one common question was how to avoid being smashed tactically in the King's Indian! Moreover, some of Black's most reliable openings of today enjoyed a rather questionable reputation in the past. ** After the supposedly warming-up days, the third round scheduled matches between teams of similar strength already, which makes natural the emergence of solid variations. The good news for those believing in the inexhaustible character of our favourite game is that in a few important games between strong players Black's walls did not withstand White's pressure. The first game of the today's selection features what may be the main source for White's nightmares: the Berlin Defence. In the past, this was considered a modest variation, suited only for players wth good defensive skills in desperate need of a draw with Black. Things have changed quite a lot over the past decades... ' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Bd7 10.Rd1 Be7 11.g4 Nh4 12.Nxh4 Bxh4 13.Nd2 Kc8 14.Nf3 Bd8N**

[14...Be7

A) 15.Bg5 Bc5 16.Rd3 Be6 17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Rxe3 Kd7 19.Nd4

A1) 19...Rad8 20.Rd1 *(20.f4 Ke7 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.Rf1 h5 23.f5 hxg4 24.hxg4 Rh4 25.f6+ Kf7 26.Re4 Rd2 27.fxg7+ Kxg7 28.Rf2 Rxf2 29.Kxf2 Rh2+ 30.Kf3 Rxc2 31.Rd4 Rxb2 32.Rd7+ Kg6 33.Rxc7 c5 34.Re7 Rb6* Roscher,J (2655)-Sudgen,J (2772) Jugoslavija 64/ (548) 2021 CBM 03 [Aiken] 0-1 (45) *)* 20...Ke7 21.Red3 g6 22.Nxe6 Rxd3 23.Rxd3 Kxe6 24.Kg2 h5 25.g5 Re8 26.f4 a5 27.Kf3 b6 28.Ke4 c5 29.a4 Rb8 30.Ke3 Rf8 31.Rd2 Re8 32.c3 Rf8 33.Ke4 Rb8 34.h4 Shomoev,A (2567)-Efremov,V (2228) Cheliabinsk 2022 1-0 (53);

A2) 19...h5 20.Rd1 Ke7 21.Nf5+ Kf8 22.Red3 Re8

23.Rd8 g6 24.Ne3 hxg4 25.hxg4 Kg7 26.Rxe8 Rxe8 27.f4 Vachier Lagrave,M (2749)-Grischuk,A (2778) Zagreb (blitz) 149/(113) 2021 Chess Informant 149 [Milanovic,Danilo];

B) 15.Rd3 c5 *(15...b5 16.Bg5 Bc5 17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Rxe3 h5 19.Ng5 Be6 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Rd1 hxg4 22.hxg4 g5 23.Kg2 Rh4 24.Kg3 Kb7 25.f4 Rah8 26.fxg5 Rh3+ 27.Kf4 Rf8+ 28.Ke4 Rh4 29.Rg1 Rg8 30.Rg2* Berlin Wall in Baku,O-RL: Berlin Defense - L'Hermet,1 Linz 2015 [Boris Avrukh] (31)*)* 16.Bg5 c4 17.Rd4 Bc6 18.Bxe7 Bxf3 19.Kh2 Re8 20.Bh4 c6 21.Re1 Bd5 22.f4 a5 23.c3 b5 24.Rd2 b4 25.Bf2 bxc3 26.bxc3 Rb8 27.f5 a4 28.Bc5 Rb7 29.Kg3 Caruana,F (2801)-Negi,P (2645) Tromsoe 2014 CBM 162 [Marin,M] 1-0 (57)]

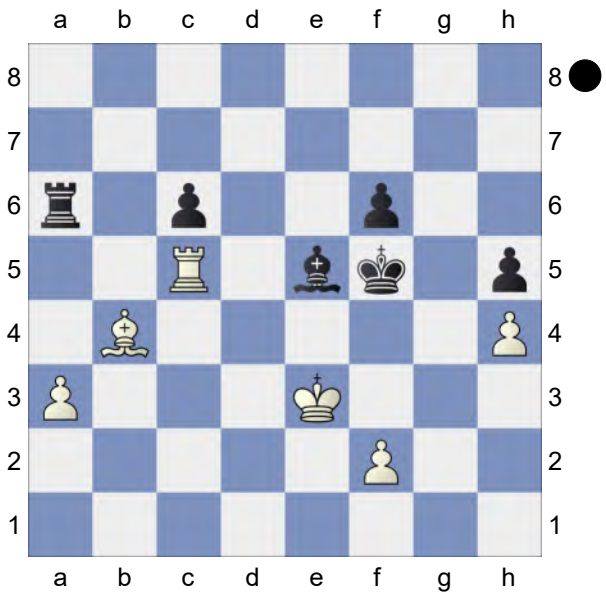
15.Bg5 f6 16.exf6 gxf6 17.Bh6 a5 18.Rd2 c5 19.Nh4 Ra6 0.48/19

[19...a4= -0.01/18 should be considered.]

20.Rad1± Be6 21.Nf5 Bxf5 22.gxf5 c4 23.Rd4 0.17/19

[23.a4!± 0.52/20 was preferrable.]

23...Rb6!= The position is equal. **24.Bc1 Rb5 25.Rxc4 Rxf5 26.Re4 c6 27.b3 Bb6 28.Rf4 Rg8+ 29.Kf1 Rgg5 30.Rd3 Rxf4 31.Bxf4** Endgame KRB-KRB **31...Rf5 32.Bg3 a4 33.c4 Bc5 34.Kg2 Be7 35.h4 h5 36.Rd4 b6 37.Rd2 b5 38.cxb5 Rxb5 39.bxa4 Rb4 40.a5 Ra4 41.a6 Rxa6 42.Bd6 Bd8 43.Bb4 Ra7 44.Kf3 Rb7 45.a3 Bc7 46.Rc2 Kd7 47.Rd2+ Ke6 48.Rc2 Rb6 49.Ke4 Ra6** Prevents Ba5. **50.Rc5 Be5 51.Kd3 Kf5 52.Ke3 Kg4** Inhibits f4. **53.Rc4+ Kf5 54.Rc5**



And now f4 would win. **54...Kg4** Prevents f4. **55.Rc4+ Kf5 56.Rc5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)

½-½

65 **C67**

□ **ChessBot2156** **2984**

■ **Mithril-SF** **3033**

Blitz 15.08.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 h6 11.b3 Kc8 12.Bb2 b6 13.Rad1 c5 14.Nd5**

[14.Rfe1 Ne7 15.Ne2 Ng6 16.h4 Bg4 17.Nh2 Bxe2 18.Rxe2 Nxh4 19.Re4 Be7 20.e6 fxe6 21.Rxe6 Bd6 22.Bxg7 Rg8 23.Rxh6 Nxg2 24.Kxg2 Rxg7+ 25.Kf1 Kb7 Leko,P (2756)-Jakovenko,D (2760) Jermuk 107/(90) 2009 CI1-130 [RR]]

14...a5 15.Rfe1N

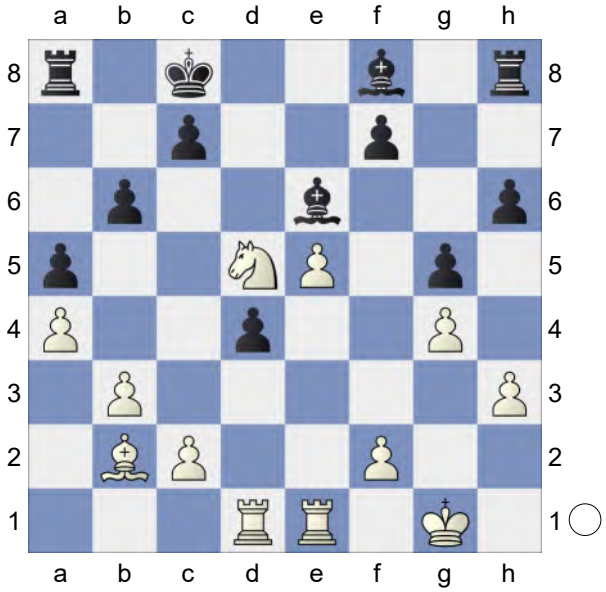
[15.g4 Ne7 16.Nf4 a4 17.Rfe1

axb3 18.axb3 Ra2 19.Rb1 Kb7 20.e6 Bxe6 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.Ne5 Rg8 23.Nd3 Nc6 24.Rxe6 Bd6 25.Rg6 Nd4 26.Kf1 Nxc2 27.Nc1 Na3 28.Nxa2 Nxb1 29.Rxg7 Re8 Firouzja,A (2744)-Grischuk,A (2708) Chess.com INT 2024 0-1 (46)]

[15.a4 c4 16.Rfe1 *(16.g4 Ne7 17.Nf4 Nc6 18.e6 fxe6 19.Ng6 Rg8 20.Nfe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Be8 22.Nxc4 b5 23.axb5 Bxb5 24.Rd4 a4 25.Ra1 Rb8 26.Ba3 axb3 27.cxb3 Bxc4 28.bxc4 Ra8 29.Bb2 Rxa1+ 30.Bxa1 Bd6* 9.Nc3 [GM Michael Roiz] (31)) 16...cxb3 17.cxb3 Be6 18.Rd3 Bc5 19.g4 Rd8 20.Nf4 Rxd3 21.Nxd3 Ne7 22.Nxc5 bxc5 23.Nd2 Rb8 24.Ba3 Bxb3 25.f4 Bxa4 26.Bxc5 Nd5 27.f5 Rb2 28.Re2 Nf4 29.Re4 Nxh3+ Firouzja,A (2744)-Grischuk,A (2708) Chess.com INT 2024 ½-½ (48)]

15...Be6 16.a4 g5 Inhibits Nf4. **17.g4 Ne7**

[Don't take 17...Nd4 18.Nxd4 cxd4

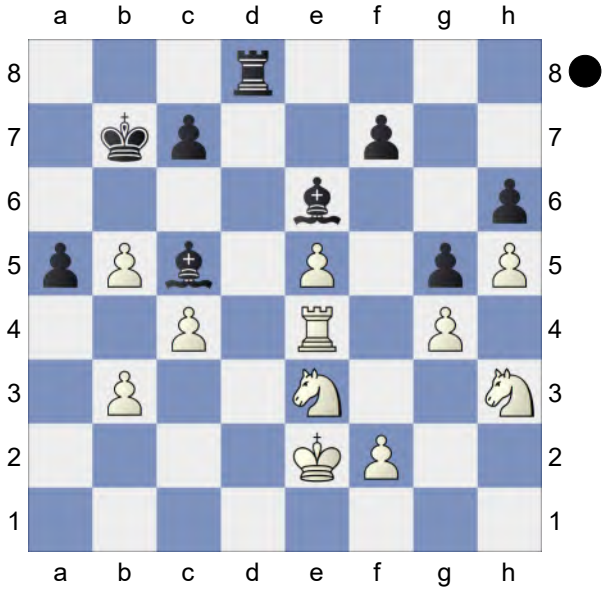


19.Bxd4!± *(19.Rxd4 h5±)*]

18.Ne3 Ng6 19.Kg2 Kb7 20.Kg3 Re8 21.c4 Rg8 22.Ba1 Nf4 23.h4 Be7 24.h5 Rd8 Prevents Nd5. **25.Ng1 Rge8 26.Nh3 Rxd1 27.Rxd1 Ne2+ 28.Kf3 Nd4+ 29.Bxd4 cxd4 30.Rxd4 Bc5 31.Re4 b5** 0.57/23

[31...Bd7= 0.01/22]

32.axb5± Rd8 33.Ke2



Inhibits Rd3. Black must now prevent Nf5. **33...c6 34.bxc6+** 0.01/22

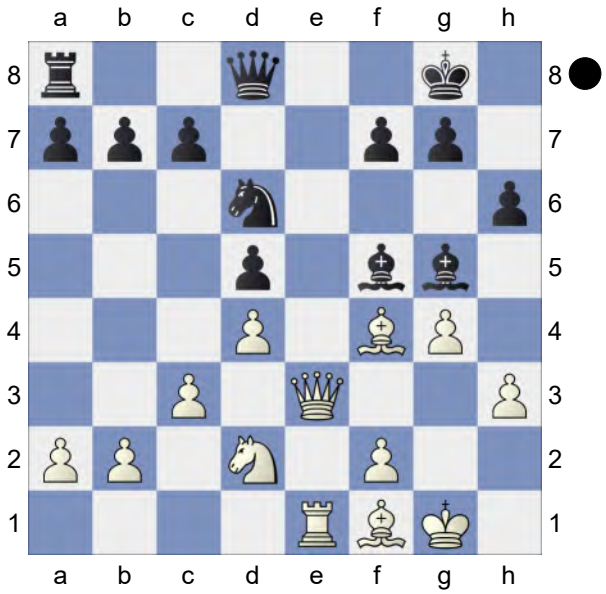
[34.f4!± 0.67/22 Bxe3 35.Kxe3 Bxg4 36.Nf2 *(36.fxg5 Bxh3 37.Rf4 Be6=)* 36...Bxh5 37.e6]

34...Kxc6= Strongly threatening ...Rb8. **35.f4 Bxe3 36.Rxe3 Bxg4+** Endgame KRB-KRN **37.Kf2 gxf4 38.Nxf4 Rd2+ 39.Kg3 Bd1 40.e6 fxe6 41.Rxe6+** The position is equal. **41...Rd6 42.Re5 Bxb3 43.Rxa5 Bxc4 44.Ng6 Kb6 45.Re5 Bf7 46.Ne7** Nc8+ is the strong threat. **46...Rf6 47.Nd5+ Bxd5 48.Rxd5** KR-KR **48...Rc6 49.Rd7 Rc3+ 50.Kg4 Rc4+ 51.Kf5 Rc6!** Prevents Rd6. **52.Rf7** Threatening mate with Rf6. **52...Kc5 53.Rg7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)

½-½

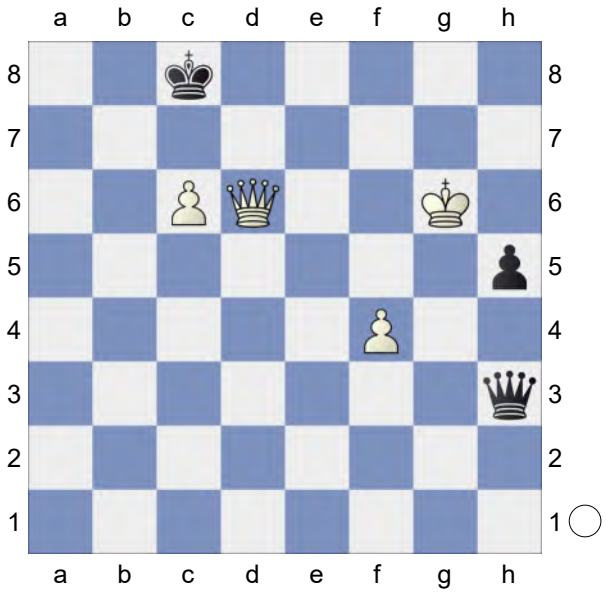
66 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2831**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2739**
Tata Steel India Rapid (3) 13.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Kramnik used to be a difficult opponent for Magnus, but while the balance had obviously changed, 2016 had become an extreme, the score being 7-0 with no draws before this game! Only 1 was classical chess, but even so, quite an extraordinary situation between the world ranking nos. 1 and 2! **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** The main line 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. Die Hauptvariante 10...Te8 punktet besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bf4**
[11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.a4 a5 14.Bf4 d5 15.Nd2 Bf5 16.Qd1 Bg5 17.Bxg5 Qxg5 18.Nf3 Qe7 19.Qb3 c6 20.Re1 Qc7 21.Qa3 Nd6 22.b3 Be4 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2839)-Vidit,S (2716) Chess.com Speed Chess blitz 2023 (1.12)]
11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 The position is equal. **13.c3 d5 14.Nd2**
[14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Nf1 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Ne3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qd7 20.Re1 c6 21.Bh6 Bg7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qe7 Rd8 24.h4 h5 25.Re3 b6 26.Qe5+ Kg8 27.Kh2 a5 28.f3 a4 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2855)-Kramnik,V (2812) Leuven GCT blitz 2016 (14)]
14...Bf5
[14...c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 1-0 Carlsen,M (2835)-Van Foreest,J (2693) Aimchess Rapid Div 1 W 2023 (1.2)]
15.Qe3 Nd6 16.h3!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **16...h6N**
[16...c6 17.g4 And now Bf4xd6! would win. Bg6 18.Re1 h6 19.Nf3 Be4 20.Ne5 Bg5 21.f3 Bxf4 22.Qxf4 Bh7 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2831)-So,W (2747) Tata Steel India Blitz 2024 (12)]
17.Re1 Bg5 18.g4



Bxf4 19.Qxf4 Bh7 20.c4 dxc4 21.Nxc4 Nxc4 22.Bxc4 Bg6 23.Re5 Kf8 24.Qe3 0.19/19
[24.Rc5± 0.57/19 was preferable. c6 25.Re5]
24...Qd6= 25.h4 Qd7 26.Qf4
[26.Be2 simplifies f6 27.Qa3+ Qd6 28.Qxd6+ cxd6 29.Ra5]
26...Re8 27.h5 Bh7 28.Bb5 c6 ...Re8xe5 is the strong threat. **29.Bc4 f6** 0.89/21
[29...Bc2= 0.16/19 keeps the balance.]
30.Rxe8+± Kxe8 Endgame KQB-KQB

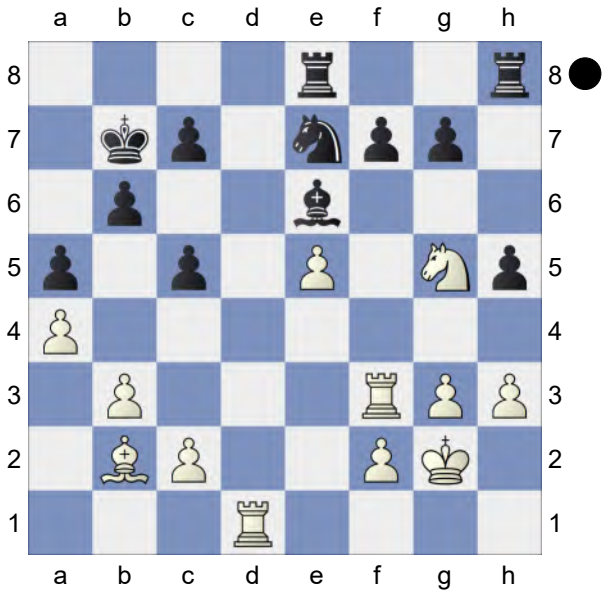
31.Qb8+ Ke7 32.Be2↑ White has strong initiative. White is more active. **32...Be4 33.Qxa7 Bd5 34.a4 f5 35.Qb8 fxg4** 1.24/23
[⌓35...Qe6 0.84/22 36.Qxb7+ Kf6]
36.Qe5+ Kd8 2.09/23
[36...Kf7± 1.29/23]
37.Kh2+- Bf3 38.Bxf3 gxf3 KQ-KQ **39.Kg3** Dodges Qd7-g4+ **39...Kc8 40.Kf4**
[40.Kxf3?! Qh3+ 41.Kf4 Qh4+ 42.Ke3 Qh1±]
40...Kd8 41.Kxf3 Qf7+ 42.Kg3 Qb3+ 43.Kg2 Qxb2 44.Qxg7 Qd2 1.74/21
[44...Qe2± 1.23/22]
45.Qe5 Kd7 1.82/23
[45...Qd1± 1.46/23 46.Qb8+ Ke7 47.Qxb7+ Kd8 48.Qxc6 *(48.Qb8+ Kd7+-)* 48...Qg4+ 49.Kh2 Qxh5+ 50.Kg3 Qg5+ 51.Kf3 Qf5+ 52.Ke2 Qg4+ 53.Qf3 *(53.Ke3 Qg5+ 54.Ke2 Qg4+ 55.Qf3 Qe6+ 56.Kd1 Kc7+-)* 53...Qe6+ 54.Kd1 Kc7+- 55.Qc3+ Kd7]
46.a5 Qd1 47.f3 2.26/25
[⌓47.f4 1.69/23]
47...Qc1 48.Qg7+? 0.73/22
[48.f4+- 2.77/24 and White stays clearly on top.]
48...Ke8 1.66/24
[48...Ke6± 0.73/22]
49.Qf6
[Inferior is 49.Qxb7 Qg5+ 50.Kh3 Qxh5+ 51.Kg2 Qg5+ 52.Kh3 Qh5+ 53.Kg3 Qg6+ 54.Kf4 Qg5+ 55.Ke4 Qg6+ 56.Ke3 Qg1+ 57.Kd3 Qd1+ 58.Ke3 Qe1+ 59.Kf4 Qd2+ 60.Kg3 Qg5+ 61.Kh2 Qh5+ 62.Kg2 Qg6+ 63.Kf2 Qc2+ 64.Kg3 Qg6+ 65.Kf2 Qc2+ 66.Kg3 Qg6+=]
49...Qd2+ 2.21/25 **50.Kh3 Kd7** 3.62/26
[50...Qc1 1.66/25 keeps fighting. 51.Qg6+ Kd8]
51.Qg7+ Kc8 52.Qe5 Kd7 53.f4 Qd3+? 4.74/23
[53...c5 2.89/22 54.Qd5+ *(54.dxc5 Qd3+ 55.Kg4 Qd1+ 56.Kf5 Qxh5+ 57.Kf6 Qd1+-; 54.Qxc5 Qe3+ 55.Kg2 Qe2+ 56.Kg3 Qe3+ 57.Kg2 Qe2+ 58.Kg1 Qd1+ 59.Kf2 Qd2+ 60.Kg3 Qe3+ 61.Kg4 Qe2+ 62.Kg3 Qe3+=)* 54...Kc7 55.Qe5+ *(55.Qxc5+ Kb8+-)* 55...Kc8 56.dxc5 *(56.Qxc5+ Kb8+-)* 56...Qxa5]
54.Kg4 Qd1+ 55.Kf5 Qxh5+ 56.Kf6 Qf3 57.Qb8 c5 8.93/22
[⌓57...Qd3 4.55/20 58.Qxb7+ Kd8 59.Qb6+ *(59.Qxc6 Qxd4+ 60.Kf5 Qd3+ 61.Ke5 Qe3+ 62.Qe4 Qa3+-)* 59...Kd7]
58.dxc5 h5 59.Qd6+ Kc8 60.a6 bxa6 61.Qxa6+ Kc7 62.Qd6+ Kc8 63.c6 Qd6-d7+ would kill now. **63...Qc3+ 64.Kg6 Qh3**



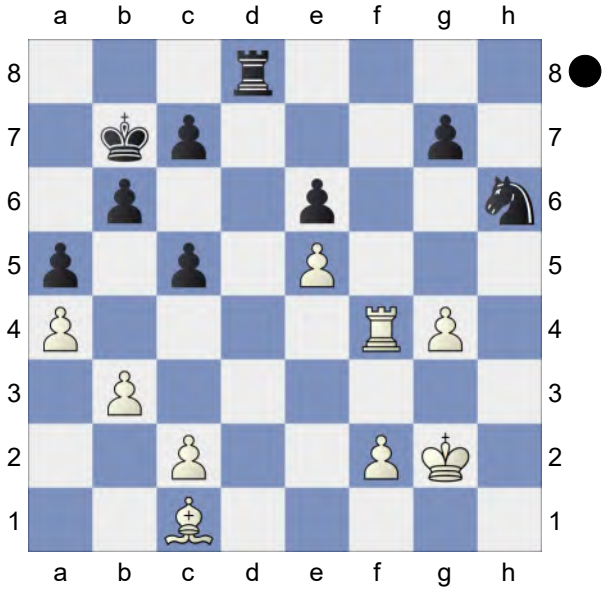
65.Qd7+! Deflection **65...Qxd7 66.cxd7+** White mates. **66...Kxd7 67.Kxh5 Ke7 68.Kg6 Kf8 69.Kf6**
Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.46
1-0

67 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **2825**
■ **Nikitosik-ai** **2818**
Classical 06.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 25min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Inf 83/317 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 h6 11.b3 Kc8 12.Bb2 b6 13.Rad1 a5**
[13...Ne7 14.Rd2 c5 15.Rfd1 Be6 16.Ne2 g5 *(16...Ng6 17.h4 Be7 18.h5 Nf8 19.Nh2 a5 20.Nf1 c4 21.Ne3 cxb3 22.axb3 a4 23.bxa4 Rxa4 24.Nc3 Ra5 25.Ncd5 Bc5 26.Bd4 Nd7 27.Bxc5 Nxc5 28.Ne7+ Kb7 29.Rd8 Rxd8 30.Rxd8 Nd7 31.f4 ½-½ Hracek,Z (2633)-Kobalia,Z (2656) Plovdiv 2010)* 17.h4 g4 18.Nh2 h5 19.Rd8+ Kb7 20.Rxa8 Kxa8 21.Rd8+ Kb7 22.Nf4 Ng6 23.g3 c4 24.bxc4 Nxf4 25.gxf4 g3 26.Nf1 gxf2+ 27.Kh2 Bxc4 0-1 Anand,V (2794)-Kramnik,V (2802) Mainz (m-rapid) 2001 (3)]
14.Rd3 Be7 0.47/23
[14...Ne7= 0.03/23]
15.a4 0.08/21
[15.Rfd1± 0.47/23 Rd8 16.g3]
15...h5N
[15...Nh4 16.Nd4 Ng6 17.f4 Bc5 18.Ne4 Bxd4+ 19.Rxd4 Ne7 20.Rd2 Rg8 21.g4 c5 22.f5 Bc6 23.Ng3 g5 24.c4 Kb7 25.Kf2 Rad8 26.Rfd1 Kc8 27.Nh5 Rxd2+ 28.Rxd2 Rf8 29.Nf6 Ng8 30.Nd5 1-0 Hansen,S (2536)-Pedersen,J (2413) DEN-ch Greve 2002 (4)]
16.Rfd1 Be6 17.Ne4 c5 18.Nfg5 Bxg5 19.Nxg5 Kb7 20.g3 Ne7 21.Kg2 Rae8 22.Rf3



Nf5 23.Rdd3 Rhf8 24.Rf4 Rd8! 25.Rxd8 Rxd8 26.g4 hxg4 27.hxg4 Nh6 28.Nxe6 fxe6 Endgame KRB-KRN **29.Bc1**

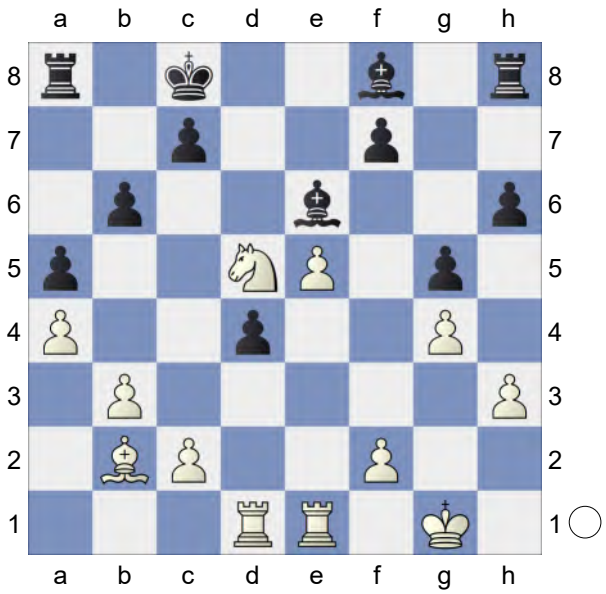


Rd1 30.Be3 and Kg3 would now be decisive **30...Rd7! 31.Kf3 Nf7 32.Ke2 Kc8**
[32...Nxe5 33.Re4 Nc6 *(33...Rd5? 34.c4+-)* 34.Rxe6±]
33.Rc4 Re7
[Reject 33...Nxe5 34.Re4 Nc6 *(34...Rd5? 35.c4+-)* 35.Rxe6±]
34.f4 Nd8 The position is equal. **35.Re4**

g6 36.Bf2 Nc6 37.c3 Rh7 38.Kf3 Ne7 39.Re1 Rh3+ 40.Bg3 Nd5 41.c4 Nb4 42.Kg2 Rh7 43.Rd1 Nc2 44.Bf2 Nb4 45.Be1 Nc2 46.Bf2 Dodges Ne3+ **46...Nb4 47.Be1 Nc6 48.Bc3 Rf7 49.Kg3** White wants to play Rh1. **49...Rd7 50.Rxd7 Kxd7** KB-KN **51.Kf2 Ke8 52.Ke3 Kf8 53.Bb2 Ke7 54.Kd3 Kd7 55.Ba1 Nb4+ 56.Ke2 Nc6 57.Kd3 Ke8 58.Ke4 Kf8 59.Bb2 Ke8 60.Ba1 Ke7 61.Bc3 Ke8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) / Black=0.04 (flawless) **62.Ba1**
½-½

68 **C67**
□ **ToromBot** **3001**
■ **XShashX** **3033**
Blitz 12.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 h6 11.b3 Kc8 12.Bb2 b6 13.Rad1 c5 14.Nd5**
[14.Rfe1 Ne7 15.Ne2 Ng6 16.h4 Bg4 17.Nh2 Bxe2 18.Rxe2 Nxh4 19.Re4 Be7 20.e6 fxe6 21.Rxe6 Bd6 22.Bxg7 Rg8 23.Rxh6 Nxg2 24.Kxg2 Rxg7+ 25.Kf1 Kb7 Leko,P (2756)-Jakovenko,D (2760) Jermuk 107/(90) 2009 CI1-130 [RR]]
14...a5 15.Rfe1N
[15.g4 Ne7 16.Nf4 a4 17.Rfe1 axb3 18.axb3 Ra2 19.Rb1 Kb7 20.e6 Bxe6 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.Ne5 Rg8 23.Nd3 Nc6 24.Rxe6 Bd6 25.Rg6 Nd4 26.Kf1 Nxc2 27.Nc1 Na3 28.Nxa2 Nxb1 29.Rxg7 Re8 Firouzja,A (2744)-Grischuk,A (2708) Chess.com INT 2024 0-1 (46)]
[15.a4 c4 16.Rfe1 *(16.g4 Ne7 17.Nf4 Nc6 18.e6 fxe6 19.Ng6 Rg8 20.Nfe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Be8 22.Nxc4 b5 23.axb5 Bxb5 24.Rd4 a4 25.Ra1 Rb8 26.Ba3 axb3 27.cxb3 Bxc4 28.bxc4 Ra8 29.Bb2 Rxa1+ 30.Bxa1 Bd6* 9.Nc3 [GM Michael Roiz] (31)) 16...cxb3 17.cxb3 Be6 18.Rd3 Bc5 19.g4 Rd8 20.Nf4 Rxd3 21.Nxd3 Ne7 22.Nxc5 bxc5 23.Nd2 Rb8 24.Ba3 Bxb3 25.f4 Bxa4 26.Bxc5 Nd5 27.f5 Rb2 28.Re2 Nf4 29.Re4 Nxh3+ Firouzja,A (2744)-Grischuk,A (2708) Chess.com INT 2024 ½-½ (48)]
15...Be6 16.a4 g5 Against Nf4 **17.g4 Ne7**
[Don't take 17...Nd4 18.Nxd4 cxd4



19.Bxd4!± *(19.Rxd4 h5±)*]
18.Ne3 Ng6 19.Kg2 Kb7 20.Kg3 Re8 21.c4 Rg8 22.Bc3 Nf4 23.Nd2 h5 24.Ne4 Be7 25.f3 -0.14/23
[25.Nd5!± 0.34/22]
25...Rh8= 26.Rh1 Active counter play!
[Much weaker is 26.Kf2 Nxh3+ 27.Kg3 Nf4∓]
26...Ne2+ 27.Kf2 Nxc3 28.Nxc3

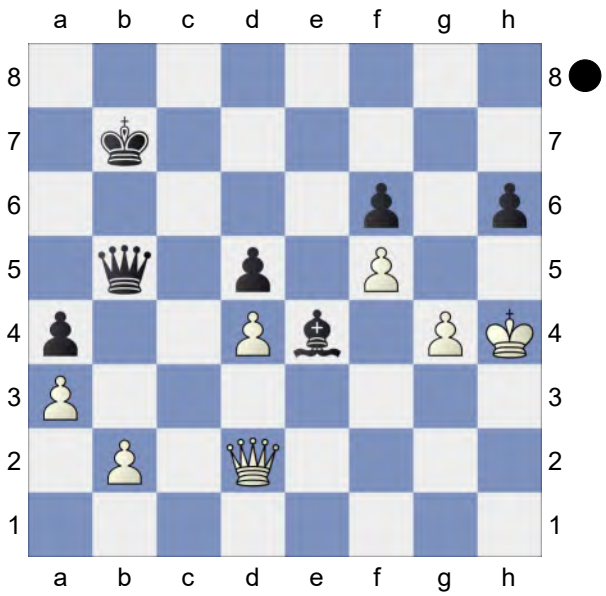
Pair of Knights! **28...f6 29.Ned5 fxe5 30.Nxe7 Rxe7 31.Ne4 Rg8 32.gxh5** -0.01/23
[32.Rd3∓ -0.32/19]
32...Bf5 The position is equal. **33.Rde1 Bxe4 34.Rxe4 Rh8 35.Rhe1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

69 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3021**
■ **ToromBot** **3067**
Rapid 12.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

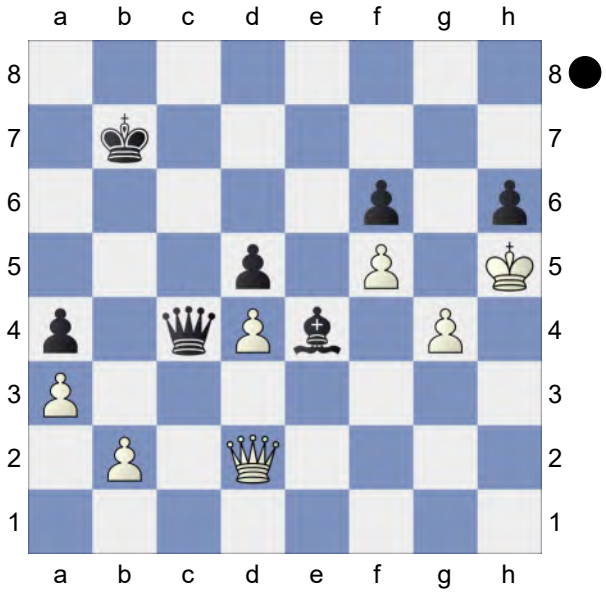
Blitz 10min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** The position is equal.
13.Bf4 d5 14.Nd2 Bf5
[14...c6 15.a4 *(15.Qe3 Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 18.Qg3 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qb7* Lou,Y (2459)-Zhao,J (2535) Shaoxing 2024 1-0 (58)) 15...a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 Carlsen,M (2868)-Topalov,V (2793) Stavanger 2013 CBM 155 [Marin,Mihail] ½-½ (51)]
15.Qe2 Nd6N
[15...c6 16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Re1 a5 20.Nc5 Nxc5 21.Qe8+ 1-0 (21) Paravyan,D (2612)-Lazavik,D (2553) Chess.com INT 2023]
16.Re1 a5 17.Qf3 Ne4 18.Nxe4 Bxe4 19.Qg3 c6 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 h6 22.f3 Bg6 23.a3 Qb6 24.Qe2 f6 25.Qd2 Kf8 26.Qf2
[26.Qe2? Re8 27.Qf2 Rxe1 28.Qxe1 Qxb2-+]
26...Qc7
[26...Qb3 with more complications. 27.Qg3 Re8 28.Qd6+ Kg8]
27.g3 b5 28.Qd2 Bf5 29.Kg2 Kf7 30.h4
[30.g4 looks sharper. Bg6 31.h4 Re8 32.h5]
30...h5 31.Re3
[31.Bd3 feels hotter. Qd7 32.Bxf5 Qxf5 33.Qe2]
31...Rh8 32.Qe1 Rg8 33.Be2 a4 34.Qd2 Bg6 35.Qc1 Bf5 36.Qe1 Qd7 37.Kg1 Rh8 38.Qf2 Qd6 39.Bd1 Qd7 40.Kg2 Rg8 41.Kg1 Rh8 42.Kh2 Qc7 43.Kh1 Qd7 44.Re1 Qc7 45.Qh2
[45.Qe2 is interesting. Qd8 46.Qe3 Qd6 47.Kg2]
45...Qd7 46.Kg1 Qc7 47.Qf2 Qd6 48.Kg2 Rd8 49.Re3
[49.Qe2 keeps more tension. Rh8 50.Qe3 Bg6 51.Kf2]
49...Qd7 50.Qg1 Rh8 51.Qf2 Bb1 52.Qd2
[52.Re1 keeps more tension. Bf5 53.Qe2 Qd6 54.Qe3]
52...Re8 53.Rxe8 Qxe8 54.Kh2 Qe6 55.Kg2 Bh7 56.Be2 Bb1 57.Kg1 Qf5 58.Kg2 Qe6
[58...g5 is more complex. 59.Bd1 Bd3 60.Qe3 g4]
59.Kh2 Qf5 60.Bd1 Qe6 61.Be2 Qf5 62.Qd1 Bc2 63.Qf1
[63.Qd2 with more complications. g5 64.Kg2 g4 65.fxg4 hxg4 66.Qh6]
63...Qe6 64.Qf2 Inhibits Qe3. **64...Bh7**

65.Bf1 Qf5 66.Bh3 Qd3 67.Bd7 Bf5 68.Bxc6 Qc4 69.Bb7 b4 70.cxb4 -0.79/26
[70.axb4= -0.01/24 remains equal. Qb5 71.Ba8]
70...Be6!∓ 71.f4 Bf5! 72.Qf3 -1.00/22
[72.Kg1!∓ -0.68/25]
72...Be4! 73.Qxh5+ Ke7 (→ ...Qc2+)
74.Qd1 Kd6 Black has compensation.
75.g4 Kc7→ Black mounts an attack.
76.Ba8 Kb8 77.h5 Qa6
[77...Kxa8 78.Qxa4+ Kb7 79.Qd7+ Kb6 80.Qd8+ Kb7 81.Qe7+ Ka6 82.Qe6+ Kb7 83.Qe7+ Ka6 84.Qd6+ Kb7 85.Qe7+=]
78.Kg3 Kxa8 79.Qc1! Qe6
[79...Qd3+ 80.Kh4=]
80.f5
[But not 80.Qc7? Bd3 81.Qc1 *(81.Qxg7* gets mated. *Qe1+ 82.Kg2 Be4+ 83.Kh3 Qh1+ 84.Kg3 Qg2+ 85.Kh4 Qh2#)* 81...Kb7-+]
80...Qd6+ 81.Kh3 Kb7 Against Qc8+
82.Qd2 -1.45/22 Inhibits Bd3.
[White should try 82.Qc5∓ -0.66/25 Qxc5 83.bxc5]
82...Qa6! ...Qf1+ is the strong threat. &Nero is more active. **83.b5 Qxb5 84.h6 gxh6!**
[84...Qf1+ 85.Kg3=]
85.Kh4

(Diagram)



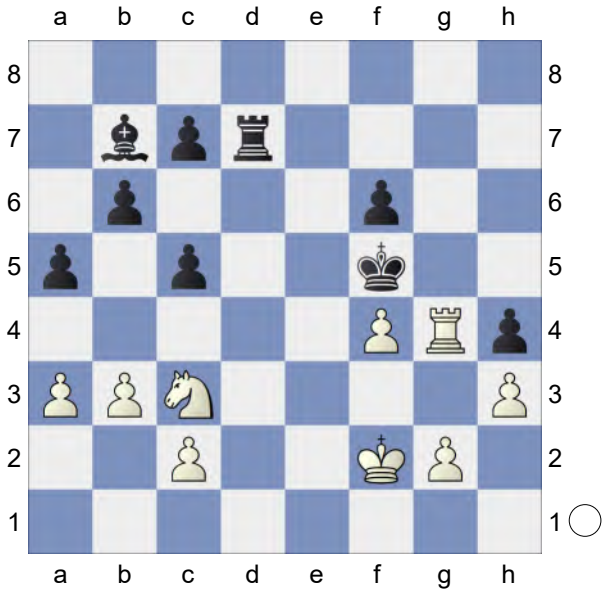
Qc4! 86.Kh5



Bf3! 87.Kxh6 Bxg4 88.Kg6 Qc6 Strongly threatening ...Qe8+.
[Weaker is 88...Qc8 89.Qb4+ Kc7 90.Qc5+ Kb8 91.Qxd5=]
89.Qb4+ Ka6 Hoping for ...Qd7. **90.Qf8** -2.87/26
[⌓90.Qe7 -1.77/21]
90...Be2-+ 91.Kg7 Bh5 92.Qb8 Qb7+ 93.Qxb7+ Kxb7 94.Kxf6 Kc6
Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.01 (flawless)
0-1

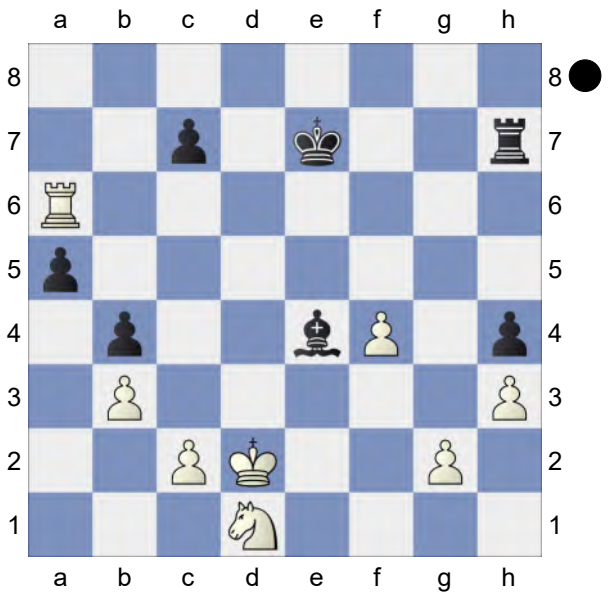
70 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3059**
■ **ToromBot** **3076**
Rapid 09.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Be7 10.Bf4**
[10.h3 Nh4 11.Rd1+ Ke8 12.Nd4 Ng6 13.f4 h5 14.Ne4 h4 15.Be3 a6 16.c4 Rh5 17.Rd3 f6 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Rf1 Bd7 20.f5 Ne5 21.Rc3 Kf7 22.Bf4 Rd8 23.Bxe5 fxe5 24.Nf3 Bxf5 Vit Spelar Sgf3 (2684)-C 06/32 (2792) BCF-ch 2016 Tarrasch [S&V #259; Alekhine Mem book] 0-1 (38)]
10...Be6N
[10...h5 11.Rad1+ Ke8 12.Rfe1 Nh4 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Ne2 a6 15.e6 Bxe6 16.Nd4 Bf6 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Bxc7 Rc8 19.Bf4 g5 20.Be5 Ke7 21.Bxf6+ Kxf6 22.Rd7 Rhd8 23.Rxb7 Rd2 24.c3 Rcd8 25.Rb6 Bd7 (2684)-Schunk,E (2625) Deutschland 111/159 2023 CT-2879 [John Watson] 1-0 (45) R8d6 26.a4 Re2 27.Rf1 Rc2 28.a5 Rd5 29.Rxc6 Rxa5 30.h4 Rxb2 31.Re1 gxh4 32.Rexe6+ Kf5 33.Rxa6 Rxa6 34.Rxa6 Rb1+ 35.Kh2 Rf1 36.Ra5+ Kf4 37.f3 h3 38.Ra4+ Kg5 39.Kxh3 Rh1+ 40.Kg3 Sevian,S (2684)-Dardha,D (2625) Saint Louis 2023 1-0 (45) h4+ 41.Kf2 h3 42.Ra5+ Kf6 43.g4 h2 44.Kg2 Rf1 45.Rf5+ 1-0 (45) Ibd7 (2684)-Schunk,E (2625) Deutschland 111/159 2023 CT-2879 [John Watson]]
11.Bg5 h5 12.Rfd1+ White has an edge. **12...Ke8 13.Rd2 Rg8** 0.42/19
[13...Rd8= 0.04/18 14.Rad1 Rxd2 15.Rxd2 h4]
14.Bxe7 0.08/20
[14.Rad1± 0.42/19 feels stronger.]
14...Kxe7= 15.Ng5 Rad8 16.Rad1 Rxd2 17.Rxd2 Bc8 18.Ne2 h4 19.b3 Re8 20.f3 Kf8 21.f4 a5 22.Kf2 f6 23.Nf3 Kf7 24.a3 Be6 25.exf6 gxf6 26.Ned4 Nxd4 27.Nxd4 Endgame KRB-KRN **27...Bc8 28.h3 c5 29.Nb5 Re7 30.Rd5 b6 31.Nc3 Kg6 32.Rd8 Bb7 33.Rg8+ Kf5 34.Rg4! Rh7 35.Nd1 Bc6 36.Nc3 Bd7 37.Nd5 Bc8 38.Ke2 Bb7 39.Nc3 Ba6+ 40.Kf3 Bb7+ 41.Ke2 Re7+ 42.Kf2 Rd7**



And now ...Rd2+ would win. **43.Ke1** Prevents Rd2. **43...Bc6 44.Nd1 Rh7 45.Kf2 Ke4 46.Nc3+! Kd4 47.Ne2+ Kd5 48.Nc3+ Ke6 49.Nd1 Kf5 50.Ke2 Ke4 51.Nc3+ Kd4 52.Kd2 b5 53.Ne2+ Kd5 54.Nc3+ Kd4 55.Ne2+ Kd5 56.Nc3+ Kd6 57.Nd1 b4 58.axb4 cxb4 59.Rg6 Be4 60.Rxf6+ Ke7 61.Ra6**

(Diagram)



Hoping for Ne3. **61...Bxg2 62.Nf2 Rh5 63.Ke3 Kf7 64.Ra7 Rc5 65.Kd2 Kg6 66.Ra6+ Kg7 67.Ra7 Kg6 68.Ra6+ Kg7 69.Ra7 Kf6 70.Ng4+ Kf7 71.Nf2! Kg8 72.Kd1 Kf8 73.Kd2 Kg8** 0.01/23

[73...Ke7!∓ -0.68/21]

74.Kd1 Kh7 75.Nd3 Rd5 Threatening ...Kg8. **76.Rxc7+ Kg8** -0.01/22

[76...Kg6∓ -0.46/22]

77.Rc8+! Kg7 -0.01/25

[Black should try 77...Kf7∓ -0.62/23]

78.Rc7+ The position is equal. **78...Kg8 79.Rc8+! Kg7 80.Rc7+ Kg8**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)

½-½

71 **C48**

□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2729**

■ **Sadhwani,Raunak** **2666**

Chessable Masters Play In blitz (7)

[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nd4 5.0-0 Nxb5 6.Nxb5 c6 7.Nc3 d6 8.d4 Qc7 9.a4 Be7**

10.a5N

[10.h3 0-0 11.Re1 Re8 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 Nh5 14.Bxe7 Qxe7 15.Re3 Qf6 16.a5 Nf4 17.Kh2 Be6 18.Qd2 Rad8 19.Ne2 g5 20.Nxf4 exf4 21.Ree1 h5 22.d5 Bd7 23.Qd4 Qxd4 24.Nxd4 c5 ½-½ Naiditsch,A (2696)-Ganguly,S (2672) ESP-chT Div Honor_18512 2016 (4.2) 25.Nf3 f6 26.h4 Bg4 27.Nd2 Kf7 28.hxg5 fxg5 29.Nc4 Kf6 30.f3 Bc8 31.Ra3 g4 32.g3 Kg5 33.fxg4 hxg4 34.gxf4+ Kxf4 35.Rae3 Rh8+ 36.Kg2 Rh3 37.Rf1+ Rf3 38.Rfxf3+ gxf3+ 39.Rxf3+ Kxe4 ½-½ Coll Sola, J (2696)-Gonzalez,J (2672) Amadora op 2003 (4.2)]

10...0-0 11.Bg5 Bg4 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.d5 a6 0.42/20

[13...Rfc8= -0.01/19 is superior.]

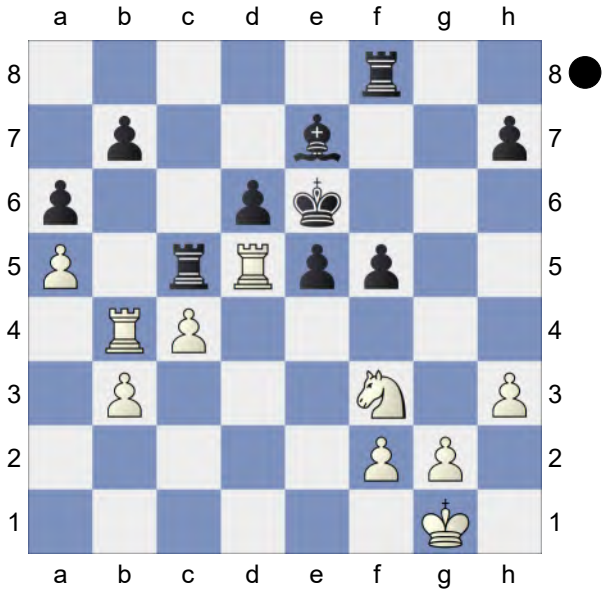
14.Qd3± Rac8 15.h3 Bd7 16.dxc6 Bxc6 17.Rfd1 Be7 18.Rd2 0.05/19

[18.Nd2± 0.43/19]

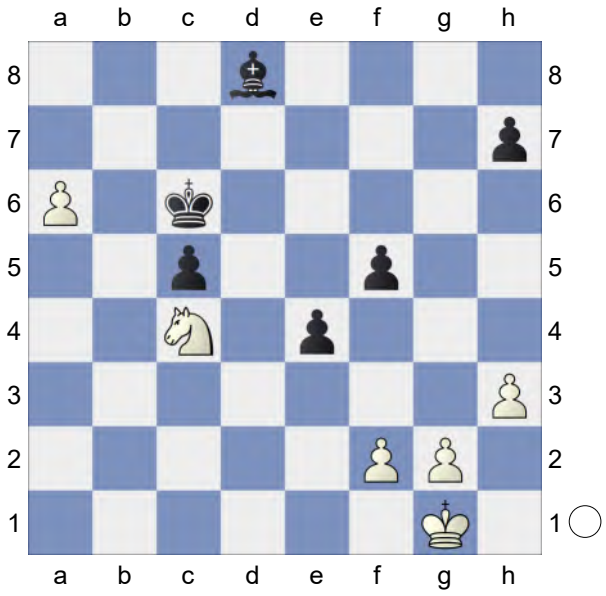
18...g6= 19.Nd5 Bxd5 20.Qxd5 Qc6 21.c3 Qxd5 22.Rxd5 f5 23.Ra4 Kf7 24.exf5 gxf5 25.c4 -0.62/19

[White should play 25.Rb4= -0.01/20]

25...Ke6∓ 26.b3 Rc5 27.Rb4



Rxd5 0.01/21
[Better is 27...b5!∓ -0.70/22 28.axb6 Rxd5 29.cxd5+ Kxd5]
28.cxd5+= Kxd5 29.Rxb7∓ Endgame KRB-KRN **29...Bf6 30.b4?** -1.59/21
[30.Rxh7= 0.01/19 f4 31.Nd2]
30...e4∓ 31.Nd2 Rc8 -1.26/21
[31...Bc3-+ -1.64/21 32.Nf1 f4 33.Rxh7 Bxb4]
32.b5 axb5 -0.01/21
[32...Rc5∓ -1.24/19 33.bxa6 Rxa5]
33.Rxb5+= Rc5 34.Rxc5+ dxc5± KB-KN **35.a6 Kc6! 36.Nc4 Bd8**



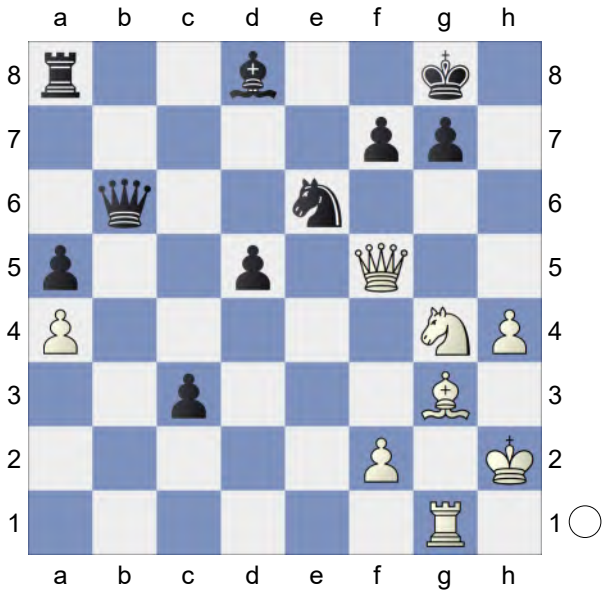
37.Nd6 -0.01/25 **Kb6!=**
[37...Kxd6? is the wrong capture. 38.a7+-]
38.Nxf5 Kxa6 39.Nd6 Be7 40.Nxe4 Kb5 41.Kf1 Kc4 42.Ke2 Kd4 43.Ng3 Ng3-f5+ is the strong threat. **43...Bf8 44.Nf5+ Ke4 45.Ne3 Kd4 46.g4 c4** The position is equal. **47.h4 c3 48.f3 Ke5 49.Ng2** Threatening Ke2-d3. **49...Kd4 50.Ne1 Be7 51.h5 Bg5 52.Nc2+ Kc4 53.Ne1 Kd4 54.Nc2+ Kc4 55.Ne1 Kd4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
½-½

72 **C67**
□ **PetersBot** **3003**
■ **Mithril-SF** **3072**
Blitz 07.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Nf5 13.a4N**
[13.Bf4 d6 14.Nd2 *(14.Bd3 Nh4 15.Nd2 Ng6 16.Bg3 Be6 17.Bc4 Bxc4 18.Nxc4 Qd7 19.Qd2 b5 20.Ne3 Bg5 21.Qd3 Re8 22.Rf1 Bxe3 23.fxe3 d5 24.a4 a6 25.axb5 axb5 26.Re1 Re4 27.Ra1 c6 28.Ra8+ Re8* Pichot,A (2638)-Harikrishna,P (2704) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (82)*)* 14...Be6 15.Bd3 Nh4 16.Ne4 Ng6 17.Bd2 d5 18.Nc5 Bc8 19.Qe3 b6 20.Nb3 Qd6 21.Qe8+ Nf8 22.Re1 Bb7 23.Qe3 Ne6 24.Qf3 Rd8 25.Qf5 Nf8 26.Bf4 Qc6 27.Nd2 Bc8 Steinitz,W-Zukertort,J New York 1886 0-1 (39)]
[13.Bd3 d5 14.Bf4 c6 15.Nd2 Nh4 16.Qe2 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Nf3 Qe7 19.Re1 *(19.Qd3 Nh4 20.Nxh4 Bxh4 21.g3 Bf6* ½-½ (21) Smeets,J (2662)-Kramnik,V (2784) Wijk aan Zee 111/(146) 2011 CI1-130 [RR]*)* 19...Qxe2 *(19...Re8 20.Kf1 Qxe2+ 21.Rxe2 Rxe2 22.Kxe2 Be7 23.Bb8* 0-1 (23) Farid,F (2392)-Atalik,S (2562) Jakarta 2014 CBM 161 [Atalik, Suat] *)* 20.Rxe2 ½-½ (20) Nakamura, H (2751)-Kramnik,V (2784) Wijk aan

Zee 2011 CI1-130 [RR]]
13...a5 14.Bf4 Ne7 15.Nd2 d5 16.Qd1 c6 17.Qb3 Ng6 18.Bg3 b6 19.Bd3 Ba6 20.Bxa6 Rxa6 21.Qd1 Ra8 22.h3 Qe7 23.Rb1 h6 24.Nf3 h5 25.Qb3 Qb7 26.Qc2 h4 27.Bh2 Qd7 28.Rc1 b5 29.Ra1 Qb7 30.Bd6 Qd7 31.Bh2 Qb7 32.b3 Qd7 33.Re1 Rc8 34.Qd3 Ra8 35.Qf1 Qb7 36.Qd3 bxa4 37.bxa4 Qb3 38.Ra1 Re8 39.Bc7 Ra8 40.g4 hxg3 41.Bxg3 Nf8 42.Kh2 Ne6 43.Ne5 c5 44.Rg1! cxd4 45.Ng4 Bd8
[45...dxc3? 46.Nxf6+ gxf6 47.Qf5+- *(47.Be5+ Kf8=)*]
[45...Bg5!? 46.h4 Qxc3!=]
46.Bd6 -0.33/23
[46.Qf5= 0.01/21 was preferrable. dxc3 47.Be5]
46...Bg5 0.01/19
[46...dxc3? 47.Nh6+ Kh8 48.Nxf7+ Kg8 49.Nh6+ Kh8 50.Nf7+ Kg8 51.Nh6+ Kh8 52.Nf7++-]
[46...Ng5∓ -0.33/23 47.h4 Qxc3! 48.Qxc3 dxc3 49.hxg5 Rc8]
47.h4!= The position is equal. **47...Qb6⇄** Black is not keeping still **48.Bg3 Bd8 49.Qf5** aiming for Nh6+! **49...Ra7**
[49...dxc3?

(Diagram)



50.Nh6+! gxh6 51.Bc7+ Kf8 52.Bxb6 Bxb6 53.Qxd5+- *(53.Qf6 Bd4±)*]
50.Qh5 dxc3 Hoping for ...Nf8. **51.Nh6+! Kf8 52.Nf5 Kg8** Against Qh8+. ...g6 is the strong threat. **53.Nh6+!** Discovered Attack **53...Kf8 54.Nf5 Kg8** Inhibits Qh8+. Threatens to win with ...g6. **55.Nh6+!** Discovered Attack. An interesting draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) / Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

73	**C67**
□ **ArasanX**	**3062**
■ **torombot**	**3066**
Rapid	07.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]	

Blitz 10min+5sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Be7 10.h3 Bd7**
[10...Nh4 11.Rd1+ Ke8 12.Nd4 Ng6 13.f4 h5 14.Ne4 h4 15.Be3 a6 16.c4 Rh5 17.Rd3 f6 18.exf6 gxf6

19.Rf1 Bd7 20.f5 Ne5 21.Rc3 Kf7 22.Bf4 Rd8 23.Bxe5 fxe5 24.Nf3 Bxf5 25.Nxh4 Vit Spelar Sgf3 (2684)-C 06/32 (2792) BCF-ch 2016 Tarrasch [S&V #259; Alekhine Mem book] 0-1 (38)]

11.Bg5 h6N

[11...Bxg5 12.Nxg5 Ke7 13.Rad1 Rad8 14.Rd2 h6 15.Nge4 Bc8 16.Rfd1 Rxd2 17.Rxd2 g5 18.Kf1 b6 19.g3 Ke6 20.f4 gxf4 21.gxf4 Ke7 22.Kf2 Be6 23.b3 a5 24.Nf6 h5 25.Nce4 h4 26.Ng5 Martic,I (2270)-Indjic,A (2641) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (50) Bc8 27.c4 Ng3 28.c5 b5 29.Kf3 Nf5 30.a3 b4 31.axb4 axb4 32.Ke4 Ng3+ 33.Kf3 Nf5 34.Rd1 Rf8 35.Ngh7 Rd8 36.Rxd8 Kxd8 37.Ng5 Nd4+ 38.Ke4 Nxb3 39.Nxf7+ Ke7 40.Ng5 Nxc5+ 41.Kd4 Ho,C (2270)-Jimenez Villena,F (2641) Santiago de Chile 2023 ZUS D32 [John Watson] 0-1 (50)]

12.Bxe7+ White has an edge. **12...Nxe7 13.Rad1** e6! is the strong threat. **13...Kc8 14.Nh2** 0.01/19

[14.Rd2± 0.34/17 feels stronger.]

14...a5 15.f4 a4 16.a3 Ra5 17.Rd4 c5 18.Rd2 b5 19.Nd5 Nxd5 20.Rxd5 b4 21.axb4 Rb5 22.Rxc5 Rxb4 23.b3! axb3 24.cxb3 Rd8 25.Rfc1 Rxf4 26.Rxc7+ Kb8 27.R1c3 -0.01/22

[27.R7c5± 0.49/19]

27...Be6!= And now ...Rd1+ would win. **28.Nf3 Bxh3 29.gxh3 Rxf3 30.Rxf3 Kxc7 31.Rxf7+±** Endgame KR-KR **31...Kc6 32.Kf2** 0.16/23

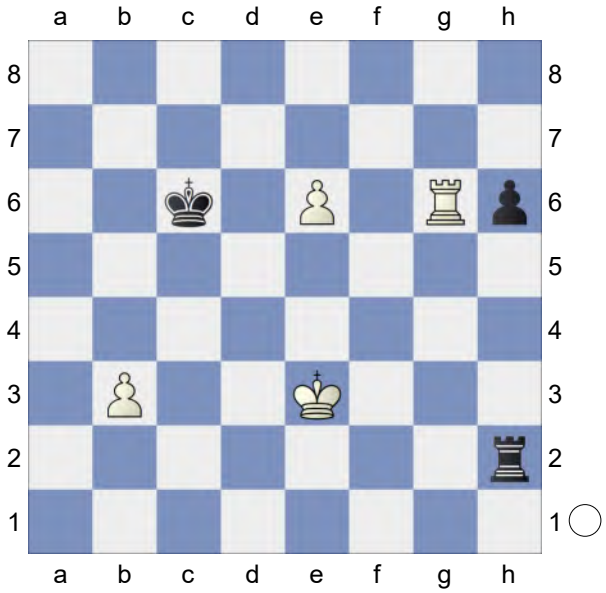
[32.Rxg7± 0.73/22 Threatens to win with Rg6+. Kd5 33.Kf2]

32...Rd3 33.Rxg7 Strongly threatening Rg3. **33...Rxh3 34.Rg6+ Kb5 35.e6** Intending e7 and mate. **35...Rh2+** 0.67/22

[35...Kc6= 0.01/25]

36.Ke3 Threatening mate with e7.

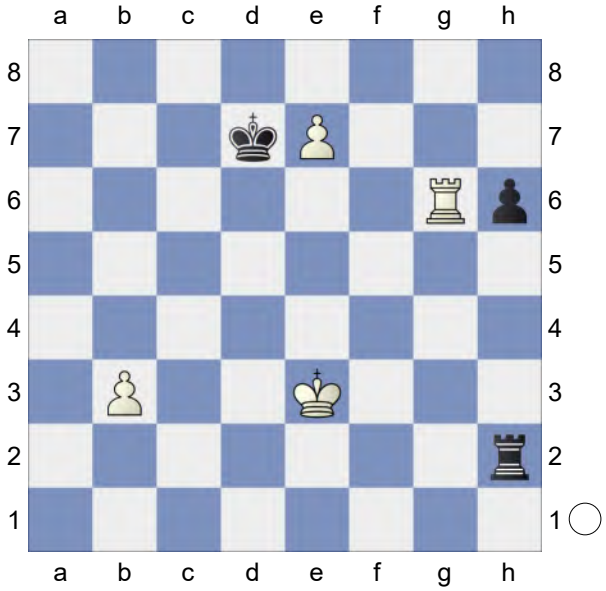
36...Kc6



37.Kf4 0.01/21

[But not 37.Rg7?! Rh1±]

[37.e7+!± 1.37/21 Kd7



38.Re6!]

37...h5 38.Ke5

[38.e7+ feels hotter. Kd7 39.Re6 Ke8 40.Kg5]

38...h4 0.74/22 Prevents Rg3.

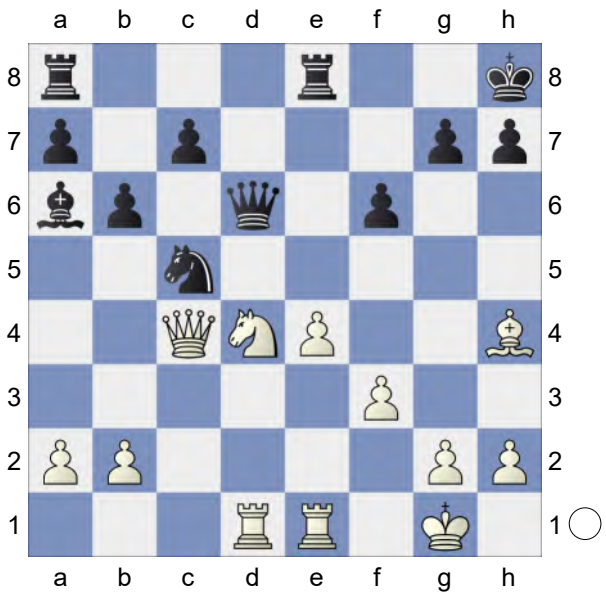
[38...Re2+± 0.39/23 was preferrable. 39.Kf6 Kd6]

39.Rg1 0.01/25
[White should play 39.Rh6± 0.74/22]
39...h3 0.73/23
[39...Re2+= 0.01/25 40.Kf6 h3]
40.Rc1+± Kb6 41.e7 0.01/25
[Much weaker is 41.Re1 Kc7=]
[41.Rc8± 0.74/23]
41...Re2+= 42.Kf6 Hoping for Rf1.
42...h2 0.55/27
[42...Rf2+= 0.01/29 43.Ke6 Re2+ 44.Kf7 Rf2+ 45.Kg6 Re2]
43.Rd1 0.01/26
[43.Rh1!± 0.55/27 Rf2+ 44.Kg7 Rg2+ 45.Kf8 Rf2+ 46.Ke8]
43...Kc5 44.b4+ Kc6
[44...Kxb4? 45.Kf7+-]
45.b5+ Kc5? 2.40/25
[45...Kc7!= 0.01/27 and Black has nothing to worry.]
46.Kf7+- Rf2+ 47.Ke6 Re2+ 48.Kf7? 0.01/21
[48.Kd7+- 3.01/27 Rd2+ 49.Rxd2]
48...Rf2+= 49.Kg7 Re2 50.Kf7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/ Black=0.22 (precise)
½-½

74 **C65**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
■ **Vokhidov,Shamsiddin** **2670**
Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

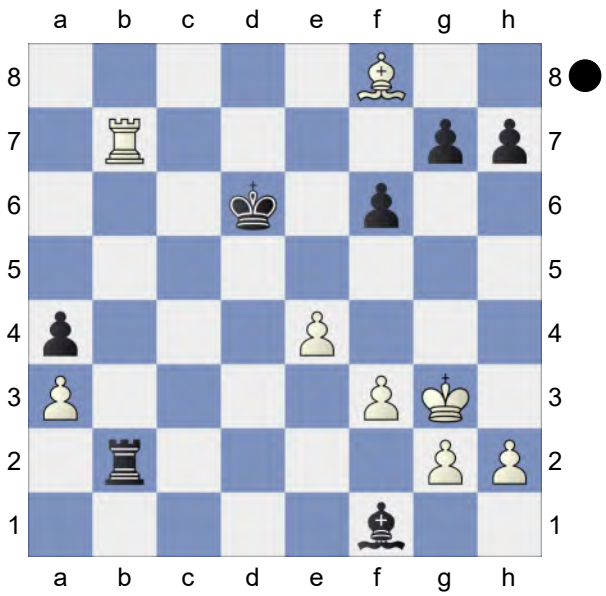
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.c3 0-0 8.d4 The position is equal. **8...Bd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 Re8N**
[10...a5 11.Nbd2 a4 12.Re1 b5 13.Bg3 Qe7 14.Nf1 Nb6 15.Ne3 Qf7 16.Qc2 Re8 17.dxe5 fxe5 18.b3 Be6 19.Ng5 Qg6 20.Nxe6 Qxe6 21.h3 Nd7 22.Red1 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7]
[10...Qe8 11.Nbd2 Qf7 *(11...Nb6 12.Re1 Bg4 13.Bg3 Kh8 14.Qc2 Rd8 15.h3 Bh5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Nh4* 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 - 6...*)* 12.Bg3 a5 *(12...Re8 13.Qc2 Nf8 14.dxe5 fxe5 15.Ng5 Qf6 16.Qb3+ Ne6 17.Nxe6 Rxe6 18.Nc4 h6 19.Nxe5 Kh7 20.Nf3 Rxe4 21.Rfe1 Rxe1+ 22.Rxe1 Qg6 23.Nh4 Qh5 24.h3 b6 25.Qc4* 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7*)* 13.b3 b6 14.Re1 Ba6 15.Qc2 c5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Rad1 Rfe8 18.Nf1 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 a4 20.Nd2 b5 21.Qd3 Ra5 22.Rb1 Nb6 23.Rfd1 axb3 24.axb3 c4 25.bxc4 ½-½ Sargsyan,S (2645)-Lazavik,D (2529) The Game has begun U20 2022 (5)]
[10...exd4 11.cxd4 c5 12.Nc3 cxd4 13.Nxd4 Ne5 14.Qb3+ Kh8 15.Rfd1 a6 16.Rac1 Qe8 17.Bg3 Rb8 18.Nd5 c6 19.Nf4 Rf7 20.Nde6 Bxe6 21.Qxe6 Bc7 22.Qb3 Re7 23.f3 Nf7 24.Ne2 Bxg3 25.Nxg3 1-0 Yan,T (2188)-Wang,C (2037) CHN-chT Div-A 2022 (1.6)]
11.Nbd2 b6 12.Re1 Qe7 13.Qa4 c5 14.Nc4 cxd4 15.cxd4 Bb7 0.85/20
[15...Bb4!± 0.35/19 16.Qb3 Kf8]
16.Rad1± White has more active pieces.
16...exd4 17.Nxd6 Qxd6 18.Nxd4
[18.Rxd4 Nc5 19.Qc4+ Qe6∓]
18...Nc5 19.Qc4+ Kh8 20.f3 Ba6

(Diagram)



21.Qc3 Rad8 22.Bg3 Qd7 23.b4 Nd3 2.94/21 **24.Rxd3?** 0.25/22
[24.Nc6+- 2.94/21]
24...Bxd3 25.Nc6 Bb5 26.Nxd8 Rxd8 27.Qxc7 Qxc7 28.Bxc7± Endgame and a2-a4! should not be overlooked. KRB-KRB. White is a pawn up. **28...Rd2 29.a3 Kg8 30.Bb8 a5 31.bxa5 bxa5 32.Rc1 a4 33.Rc5 Bd7 34.Rc3 Rb2 35.Bd6 Rb1+ 36.Kf2 Rb2+ 37.Kg3 Bb5 38.Rc8+ Kf7 39.Rc7+ Ke6?** 4.59/25
[39...Kg8± 0.96/22]
40.Bf8? 1.44/22
[40.Bb4+- 4.59/25 is the precise move to win. Bd7 41.f4 Rb3+ 42.Kf2 Rb2+ 43.Ke3]
40...Bf1? 5.15/23
[40...g5± 1.44/22 is a better chance. 41.Re7+ *(41.Rxh7 Rc2+-)* 41...Kd6 42.Rf7+ *(42.Rxh7+ Kc6+-)* 42...Kc6 43.Rxf6+ Kb7]
41.Re7++- White is clearly winning.
[Weaker is 41.Bxg7 Rxg2+ 42.Kf4 Bb5±]
41...Kd6 42.Rb7+

(Diagram)



Discovered Attack (Check) **42...Kc6 43.Rxb2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/Black=0.51
1-0

75 **C65**
□ **Nikitosik-ai** **3042**
■ **torombot** **3047**
Rapid 05.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min+1sec C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Nd7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nc4 Re8 9.Bd2 b6N**
[9...Bd6 10.Bc3 c5 *(10...f6 11.Nh4 Nf8 12.Nf5 Ng6 13.Qg4 Bxf5 14.exf5 Qd7 15.Na5 b5 16.Nxc6 Nf4 17.Na5 h5 18.Qf3 Qxf5 19.Bd2 e4 20.dxe4 Qxe4 21.Qxe4* ½-½ (21) Shevchenko,K (2668)-Kozak, A (2552) Vrnjacka Banja 2023*)* 11.a4 f6 12.Nh4 Nf8 13.g3 Bh3 14.Ng2 Qd7 15.f4 exf4 16.gxf4 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 f5 18.e5 Qc6+ 19.Qf3 Qxf3+ 20.Kxf3 Be7 21.Ne3 g6

22.Rh1 Red8 23.h4 h5 24.Kg3 Wei,Y (2753)-Grischuk,A (2783) Chiva CHN 2017 [Mikhalevski,Victor] ½-½ (35) Ne6 25.Nc4 b6 26.Nd2 Bf8 27.Rhf1 a6 28.Nf3 Kf7 29.b3 Rd5 30.Bd2 Rad8 31.Ra2 R5d7 32.Be3 Rd5 33.Bd2 R5d7 34.Be3 Rd5 35.Bd2 ½-½ (35) Wei,Y (2753)-Grischuk,A (2783) Chiva CHN 2017 [Mikhalevski,Victor]]

[9...f6 10.b4 Bf8 11.a4 Nb6 12.Na5 c5 13.b5 c4 14.dxc4 Rb8 15.Qe2 Be6 0.00 Lesson 18: Spanish,B-Spanish Berlin 4. d3 Bc5 5.]

10.a3 f6 11.Nh4 Nf8 12.b4 Be7 13.Nf5 Ne6 14.Nxe7+

[14.Qg4 with more complications. Kh8 15.Nxe7 Qxe7 16.Qh5]

14...Qxe7 15.Ne3 c5 16.Kh1 Bd7 17.Nd5 Qd6 18.bxc5 Nxc5 19.f4 Be6 20.fxe5 fxe5

[20...Qxe5? 21.Bf4 Qd4 22.Nxc7+-]

21.Ne3 Rf8 22.h3 Rxf1+ 23.Nxf1 Rf8 24.Qe1 h6 25.Kh2 Kh7 26.Ne3 Rf7 27.Rd1 Nd7 28.Bb4 c5 29.Bc3 b5 30.Rb1 a6 31.Qg3 Rf6 32.Ra1 b4 33.Bb2 Rg6 34.Qf2 Rf6 35.Qg3 b3 36.Bc3 Rg6 37.Qf2 Rf6 38.Qg3 Rg6 39.Qf2 Rf6 -0.01/21

[39...Nf6∓ -0.35/20 feels stronger.]

40.Qg3 An uneventful encounter.

Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)

½-½

76 **C67**

□ **PetersBot** **3000**

■ **torombot** **3055**

Rapid 05.08.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Bd3 d5 14.Bf4 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Qe2 c6 17.Re1 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nb3**

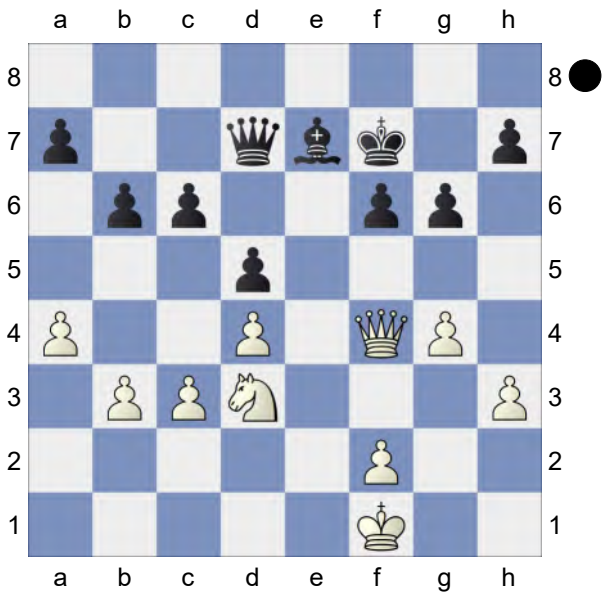
[19.Nf3 Ng7 20.Be5 Ne6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5 Ng7 25.Qxe8+ Nxe8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxe8 Kxe8 29.f4 f5 30.Kf2 b5 *(30...Kf7 31.Ke3 Ke6 32.Kd3 Kd6 33.Ke3 Ke6 34.Kd3 Kd6 35.Ke3 Ke6* ½-½ (35) Liang,A (2677)-Niemann,H (2733) Saint Louis 2024*)* 31.b4 Kf7 32.h3 h6 33.h4 h5 Molina,R (2870)-Buchicchio,G (2775) Ohrid 2013 Telechess CBM 89 [Adriano, CHECK! #535] (33)]

19...Ng7 20.h3N

[20.Nc5 b6 21.Nd3 Qd7 22.Qf3 Re8 23.Rxe8+ Qxe8 24.Qe3 Ne6 25.Be5 Be7 26.Bg3 ½-½ (26) Emelyanov,M (2517)-Gramstad,R (2432) ICCF 2014 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Gramstad,Reidar]]

20...b6 21.Nc1 Qd7 22.Qg4 Nf5 23.Qe2 Ng7 24.Qg4 Nf5 25.Nd3 Re8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Kf1 Qd7 28.Qf3 Be7 29.Qe2 f6 Prevents Ne5. **30.g4 Ng7 31.a4 Ne6 32.b3 Kf7 33.Qf3 Nxf4 34.Qxf4**

(Diagram)

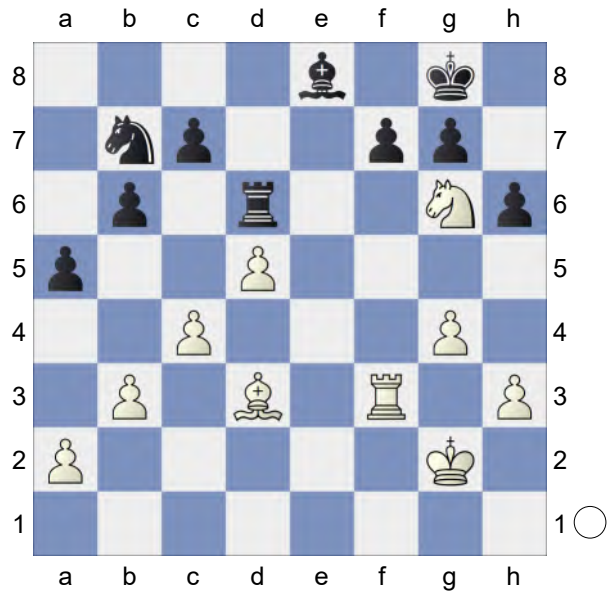


Strongly threatening Ne5+. **34...Bd6 35.Qh6 Kg8 36.Qe3 Kf7 37.Ke2 Qe6**
[37...h5 keeps more tension. 38.gxh5 gxh5 39.Qf3 Kg6]
38.Qxe6+
[38.b4 is more complex. Qe4 39.f3 Qe6 40.Qxe6+ Kxe6 41.f4]
38...Kxe6= Endgame KB-KN **39.Kf3 Kd7 40.b4 a6 41.Ke3 Ke6 42.f4 Bc7 43.Kf3 Bd6 44.h4 Bc7 45.Nc1 f5** The position is equal. **46.g5 Kd7 47.Nd3 Ke6 48.Ke2 Kd6 49.Kf3 Ke7 50.Ne5 Bxe5 51.fxe5** KP-KP **51...a5 52.Ke2 Kd8 53.bxa5 bxa5 54.Kf2 Ke7 55.Ke3 Kd8 56.Kd3 Ke7 57.Ke2 Ke6 58.Kf3 Kd7 59.Kg2 Ke8 60.Kf3 Kf7 61.Ke3 Kf8 62.Kd2 Ke7 63.Ke3 Ke8 64.Kd3 Kd7 65.Ke3 Kd8 66.Kf2 Ke7 67.Ke1 Ke6 68.Kf1 Ke7 69.Kg1 Ke6 70.Kh1 c5 71.Kg2 c4 72.Kg3 Kd7 73.Kf4 Ke6 74.Ke3 Ke7 75.Kf2 Ke6 76.Kg3 Ke7 77.Kg2 Ke6 78.Kf3 Kd7 79.Ke2 Ke8 80.e6 Ke7 81.Kf3 Kd6 82.e7 Kxe7 83.Kf4 Ke6 84.Kg3 Ke7 85.Kf3 Kd6 86.Kf4 Ke6 87.Kf3 Kd6 88.Kf2 Ke6 89.Kg2 Ke7 90.Kg3 Ke6 91.Kg2 Kd7 92.Kg3 Kd6 93.Kf3 Kd7 94.Kg3 Kc6 95.Kf2 Kc7 96.Kf3 Kc6 97.Kf4 Kd6 98.Ke3 Ke6 99.Kf4 Kd6 100.Ke3 Kd7 101.Kf4 Kc7 102.Ke5 Kc6 103.Kf4 Kd6**
An uneventful encounter. Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

77 **C67**
□ **Botyuliirma** **3025**
■ **CruelKen** **3034**
Rapid 04.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

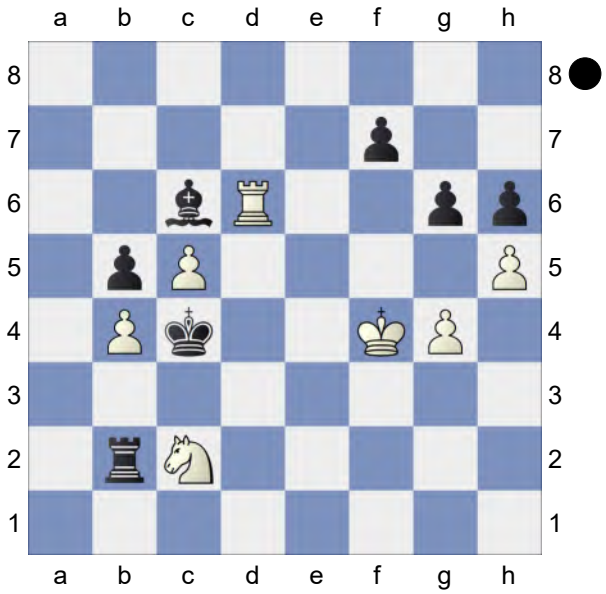
Blitz 6min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Qe3**
[13.Nc3 Bxd4 14.Nd5 d6 15.Bg5 Bf6 16.Nxf6+ Nxf6 17.Bxf6 gxf6 18.Qe4 f5 19.Qe3 Be6 20.Qg3+ Kf8 21.Qc3 Ke7 22.Re1 Kd7 23.Bc4 Qh8 24.Bxe6+ fxe6 25.Qb3 Re8 26.Qxb7 Rb8 27.Qxa7 Qxb2 Carlsen,M (2835)-Tomashevsky,E (2738) Moscow 2012 CBM 149 [Marin, Mihail] ½-½ (94)]
13...d5 14.c3N
[14.Nd2 g6 15.c3 Ng7 16.Re1 c6 17.h3 Bf5 18.g4 Be6 19.Nf3 h5 20.Ne5 hxg4 21.hxg4 Qb6 22.Bg5 Qd8 23.Bh6 Qd6 24.Qf4 Ne8 25.Re3 Qe7 26.Bd3 Rd8 27.Qh2 c5 28.f4 cxd4 Otsuka,S (2271)-To,N (2318) Budapest 2024 ½-½ (39)]
14...Qe7 15.Nd2 Qxe3 16.fxe3 Be7 17.e4 dxe4 18.Nxe4 Be6 19.Nc5 Bd5 20.c4 Bc6 21.Nd3 Rd8 22.d5 Bd7 23.h3 b6 24.g4 h6 25.Re1 Kf8 26.Ne5 Bb4 27.Re2 a5 28.b3 Nd6

29.Kg2 Nb7 30.Rf2 Bc5 31.Rf3 Be8 32.Bd3 Bd6 33.Ng6+ Kg8 34.Bxd6 Rxd6 35.Ne7+ Kf8 36.Ng6+ -0.01/16
[36.Nf5± 0.35/22 Rf6 37.Nd4]
36...Kg8=



37.Ne7+ -0.01/18
[37.Re3!± 0.37/20 fxg6 *(37...Rd8 38.Nf4)* 38.Rxe8+ Kf7 39.Rb8]
37...Kf8 38.Nf5 Rd8 39.a3 Nc5 40.Nd4 Nxd3 41.Rxd3± Endgame KRB-KRN
[Wrong is 41.Ne6+? Ke7 42.Rxd3 fxe6-+]
41...Bd7 42.b4 0.01/21
[42.Kg3± 0.43/20]
42...axb4 43.axb4 Ra8 44.Kf3 Ra4 45.Rb3 Ke7 46.Nc2 0.01/21
[46.Ke4± 0.38/22 should be considered.]
46...Kd6 The position is equal. **47.Ke4** Inhibits f5+. **47...Ra2 48.Nd4 Ra1 49.Nc2 Ra2 50.Rc3 c5 51.dxc6 Bxc6+ 52.Kf4 g6 53.Rd3+ Ke7 54.Rc3 Kd6 55.h4 Rb2 56.h5 b5 57.c5+ Kd5 58.Rd3+ Kc4 59.Rd6**

(Diagram)



Black must now prevent Ne3+. **59...Rxc2 60.Rxc6 gxh5 61.gxh5 Kxb4** aiming for ...f6! **62.Rxh6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

78 **C67**
□ **Botyuliirma** **3019**
■ **Boller1910** **3032**
Blitz 04.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

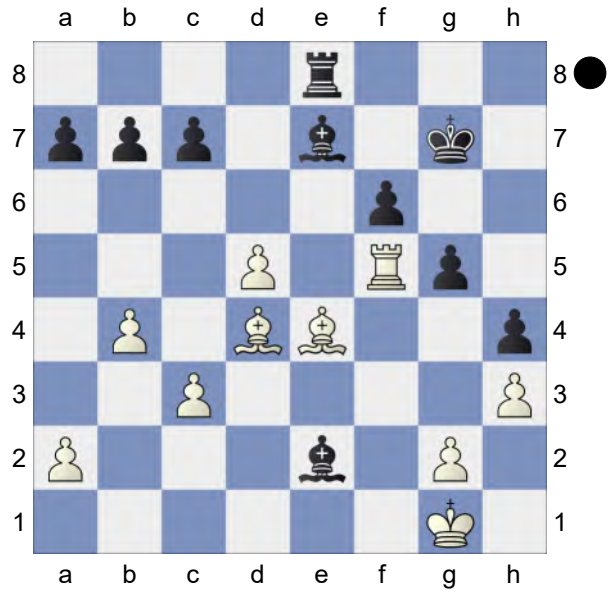
Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Qe3N**
[13.Nc3 Bxd4 14.Nd5 d6 15.Bg5 f6 16.Bh4 *(16.Be3 Bxb2 17.Rb1 c6 18.Bc4 Be5 19.Nc7+ d5 20.Nxa8 dxc4 21.Rd1 Qe7 22.Bxa7 Bg4 23.f3 Bf5 24.f4 Bd6 25.Nb6 Qxe1+ 26.Rxe1 Bc5+ 27.Kh1 Kf7 28.c3 Nc7 6* Chapter-Games Game*)*
16...Bxb2 17.Rb1 Be5 18.f4 c6

19.fxe5 cxd5 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Bd3 Bd7 22.Qg3 Bc6 23.Bf5 Kh8 24.Qh3 Qe7 25.Bxh7 Muzychuk,M (2560)-Lagno,K (2559) Astana 2019 Chess Informant 141 [Tadic,Branko]]
[13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 Molina,R (2835)-5.dc5 ?c5 6.?f4_44689 (2693) Linares 2023 Inf87 [John Watson] 1-0 (51)]

13...d5 14.c3 Qe7 15.Nd2 Qxe3 16.fxe3 g5 17.Bg3 h5 18.e4 h4 19.Bf2 dxe4 20.Nxe4 Strongly threatening Re1. **20...Be7 21.Be3 f6 22.Re1** aiming for Bc4+. **22...Kf8 23.Bd3 Nd6 24.d5 Nxe4 25.Bxe4 Bg4 26.Bd4 Re8 27.h3 Bh5 28.Rf1 Kg7 29.b4**

[29.Bxa7? b6 30.d6 Bxd6-+]

29...Be2 30.Rf5



Black must now prevent Kf2. **30...Kg8** And now ...Bd6 would win.

[30...Bd8!? 31.Bc2 Kf7=]

31.Bc2

[31.Bxa7? b6 32.Kf2 Bh5-+]

31...Bc4 32.Bb3

[Don't go for 32.Bxf6? Bd6 33.Rxg5+ *(33.Bxg5? Re1+ 34.Kf2 Re2+ 35.Kg1 Rxc2-+)* 33...Kf7-+]

[Wrong is 32.Bxa7? b6 33.Bxb6 cxb6-+]

32...Bxb3 33.axb3= Endgame KRB-KRB **33...Kf7 34.b5 a6 35.bxa6 bxa6 36.Kf2 a5 37.d6 Kg6 38.Rxa5**

[38.d7 is more complex. Rd8 39.Rxa5 Rxd7 40.Ke3]

38...Bxd6 39.b4 Re4 40.Kf3 Re1 41.Ra2 Kf5 42.Ra5+ Ke6 43.Ra2 Kf5 44.Ra5+ Ke6 45.Ra2 Rb1 46.Re2+ Kf5 47.Ra2 Ke6 48.Re2+ Kf5 49.Ra2 Rc1 50.Ra5+ Ke6 51.Ra2 Be5 52.Ra6+ Bd6 53.b5 Kd5 54.Ke3 -0.37/22

[54.b6= -0.01/21]

54...f5∓ 55.Kd3 Rd1+ -0.01/23

[55...g4∓ -0.41/22 might be stronger. 56.Ra1 Rxa1 57.c4+ Ke6 58.Bxa1 Be5 59.Bxe5 Kxe5]

56.Ke2 The position is equal. **56...Rb1 57.Kd3** Hoping for c4+. **57...Rd1+ 58.Kc2 Rf1 59.Kd3 Rd1+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) / Black=0.04 (flawless)

½-½

79 **C67**
□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3274**
■ **ArasanX** **2959**
Blitz 02.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re2 b6 11.Re1 Bb7 12.Bf4 Nf5 13.c3! Re8 14.Nd2N**

[14.Rxe8+ Qxe8 15.Nd2 d6 16.Qc2 Nh4 17.Bg3 Ng6 8) 4.O-O Nxe4 5. Re1 & Others-4.O-O Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 #]

14...Rxe1 15.Qxe1 g5 16.Bg3 Nxg3 17.hxg3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Ne4 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rb8 21.Rd1 -0.01/19 &Bianco is more active.

[21.Rb1!± 0.70/18]

21...Rxb2= 22.Qf5

[But not 22.Bd3 Bxc3 23.Qxh7+ Kf8∓]

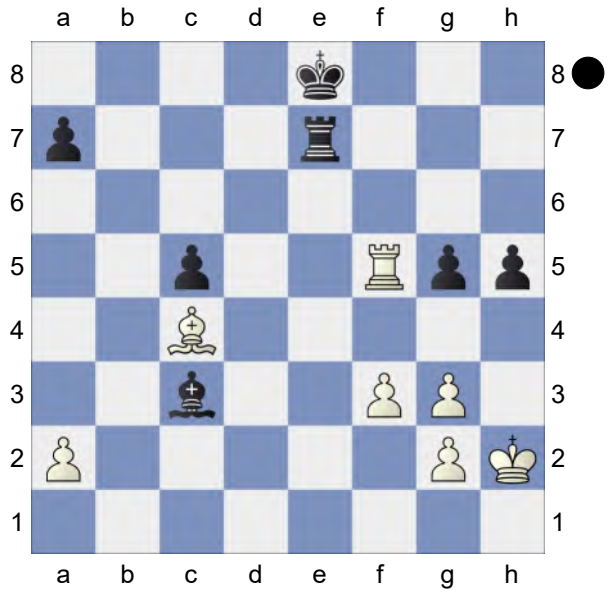
[22.Rd5!?]

22...Qe7 23.Rxd7 Qe6 24.Qxe6 fxe6 Endgame KRB-KRB **25.Bc4 Bxc3 26.f3** 0.31/21

[Of course not 26.Rxa7 Rb1+ 27.Kh2 Re1=]

[⌓26.f4 0.62/19]

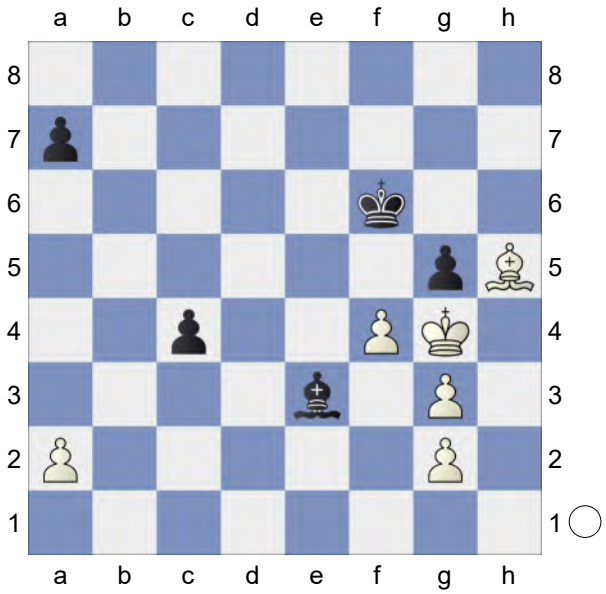
26...h5 27.Bxe6+ Kf8 28.Kh2 Re2 29.Rf7+ Ke8 30.Bc4 Re7 31.Rf5



Black must now prevent Bb5+. **31...Re5 32.Rf7** -0.01/19

[32.Bf7+!± 0.69/23 Ke7 33.Rxe5+ Bxe5 34.Bxh5]

32...Re7 33.Rf5 And now Bb5+ would win. **33...Re5 34.Bf7+ Ke7 35.Rxe5+ Bxe5 36.Bxh5±** KB-KB **36...Bd4 37.Kh3! Kf6 38.Kg4 Be3 39.f4 c4**



Hoping for ...c3. **40.Be8 c3** ...c2 is the strong threat. **41.Ba4 a5 42.Kf3 Bd2 43.Bd1 Ke6 44.Ke4 Kf6 45.Bc2 g4! 46.f5 Kg5 47.Kd5** aiming for Kc5. **47...Be1 48.Kc4** Strongly threatening Kb5. **48...Bxg3 49.Kxc3 Kf6 50.Kd4 Be5+ 51.Ke4 g3 52.Bb3 Bd6 53.Bc2** -0.01/28

[53.Bc4± 0.42/31 is superior.]

53...Bc7 0.52/31

[53...Be5!= -0.01/28]

54.a4 0.21/35

[54.Bd3± 0.52/31]

54...Bb8 55.Kd5 Bc7 56.Ke4 0.01/33

[White should try 56.Bd3± 0.56/36]

56...Be5 57.Ke3 Bd6 58.Bd1 -0.02/37

[58.Kf3± 0.47/35]

58...Kxf5= The position is equal.

59.Bc2+ Ke5 60.Be4 Bc5+ 61.Kd3 Bd6 62.Bc6 Bc5 63.Kc4 Bd4 64.Kb5 Bc3 65.Kc4 Bd4 66.Kd3 Bc5 67.Bb7 Bd6 68.Kc4 Bc7 69.Kd3 Bd6 70.Kc4 Ba3 71.Bf3 Kf4 72.Kd4 Bb2+ 73.Kd3 Ba3 74.Bc6 Bc5 75.Be8 Be7 76.Bc6 Bb4 77.Kd4 Bd6 78.Kd3 Be7 79.Kd4 Bf6+ 80.Kd3 Bh8 81.Bf3 Bf6 82.Bc6 Bg7 83.Bb7 Ba1 84.Ba8 Bb2 85.Bc6

Bg7 86.Ke2 Bb2 87.Bf3 Bd4 88.Ba8 Bg7 89.Bb7 Bb2 90.Kd3 Bg7 91.Ba8 Bh8 92.Bb7 Bb2 93.Ke2 Bh8 94.Kd3 Bg7 95.Bc6 Bf8 96.Kd4 Bd6 97.Bb7 Be5+ 98.Kc4 Ke3 99.Ba8 Ba1 100.Kb5 Bc3 101.Kc4 Bg7 102.Kb5 Bc3 103.Kc4 Bd2 104.Bf3 Be1 105.Bb7 Bb4 106.Bf3 Kf2 107.Bd5 Be7 108.Bf3 Ke1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

80 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3017**
■ **yobot_v2** **3031**
Rapid 30.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Rapid 15min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 CC HeaderStart CC Game: 'The file that matters' CC HeaderEnd CC When I played through the following game, I had the feeling that I'd seen a great game, but I didn't understand why. After quite a bit of analysis, I think I do ! The opening is a solid anti-Berlin variation with a symmetrical pawn structure and only the faintest initiative for White. Between moves 25 and 34, AlphaZero unbalances the position: White gains an outpost for its knight on c5, control of the open e-file, an invasion square on e6 and weak black queenside pawns on a5 and c6. However AlphaZero slowly reels White in, first creating a dark- square weakness on White's kingside and then converting this weakness into an advanced pawn on g3 with 41... hxg3. Stockfish lets it all happen, evaluating the position before and after with exactly the same value (0. 00) . The g3-pawn restricts the movement of the white king and AlphaZero uses this to stretch White's position to breaking point by opening an extra file - the a-file - and targeting White's queenside pawns, after which White's position eventually collapses. Game themes: 1. Avoiding the automatic occupation of an open file 2. Using a rook's pawn to weaken the opponent's king's position 3. Advanced bishop outpost 4. Improving the position of the king before the next wave of attack Game: 'The file that matters' InChapter 2 we looked at AlphaZero's evaluation mechanisms through this middlegame. When I played through the following game, I had the feeling that I'd seen a great game, but I didn't understand why. After quite a bit of analysis, I think I do ! The opening is a solid anti-Berlin variation with a symmetrical pawn structure and only the faintest initiative for White. Between moves 25 and 34, AlphaZero unbalances the position: White gains an outpost for its knight on c5, control of the open e-file, an invasion square on e6 and weak black queenside pawns on a5 and c6. However AlphaZero slowly reels White in, first creating a dark-square weakness on White's kingside and then converting this weakness into an advanced pawn on g3 with 41... hxg3. Stockfish lets it all happen, evaluating the position before and after with exactly the same value (0. 00) . The g3-pawn restricts the movement of the white king and AlphaZero uses this to stretch White's position to breaking point by opening an extra file - the a-file - and targeting White's queenside pawns, after which White's position eventually collapses.

Game themes: 1. Avoiding the automatic occupation of an open file 2. Using a rook's pawn to weaken the opponent's king's position 3. Advanced bishop outpost 4. Improving the position of the king before the next wave of attack **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Nd2**

[14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Nf1 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Ne3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qd7 20.Re1 c6 21.Bh6 Bg7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qe7 Carlsen,M (2855)-Kramnik,V (2812) Leuven 2016 129 Games Section [Petronijevic, Zoran]]

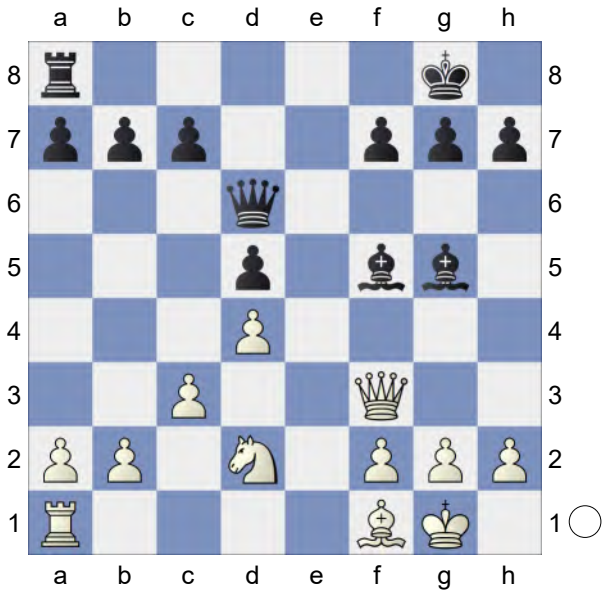
14...Bf5

[14...c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 Molina,R (2835)-5. dc5 ?c5 6.?f4_44689 (2693) Linares 2023 Inf87 [John Watson] 1-0 (51)]

15.Qe3 Nd6 16.Qg3N

[16.Nf3 a5 17.Re1 c6 18.a4 h6 19.Qc1 Be7 20.b3 Ne8 21.Qe3 Bf8 22.Bd3 Qf6 23.Ne5 Nd6 24.f3 Bxd3 25.Nxd3 h5 26.Qd2 b5 27.Qd1 Rc8 28.Be5 Qg5 29.Bf4 Qf6 *(29...Qf5 30.Re5 Qg6 31.Nc5 bxa4 32.Nxa4 f6 33.Re1 h4 34.h3 Qf5 35.Be3 Nf7 36.Bf2 Bd6 37.Nb2 Bg3 38.Nd3 Nd6 39.Bxg3 hxg3 40.Nc5 Qg5 41.Kf1 Nf5 42.Qe2 Rb8 43.Ne6 Qh6 44.Nc5* Piece Mobility Outposts-The File That Matters Stockf (142)*)* 30.Be5 Qg5 Part Iii Themes In Alphazero-Stockfish Vs Alphazero (142)]

16...Bh4 17.Qf3 Bg5 18.Bxd6 Qxd6



19.h4! Bxd2 20.Qxf5 c6 21.Qc2 Bh6 22.Bd3 g6 23.Re1 Rf8 24.g3 f5 25.f4 Kf7 26.Kg2 Bg7 27.h5

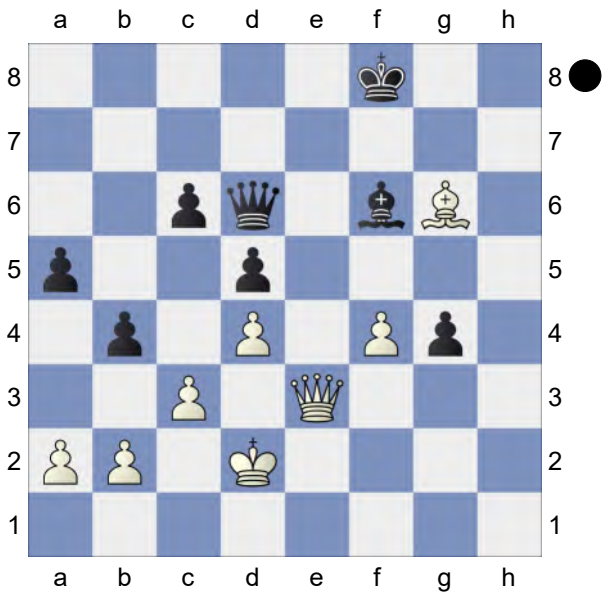
[27.Qe2 feels hotter. Bf6 28.h5 Qe7 29.Qf1]

27...Re8 28.Rxe8 Kxe8 29.Qd1 Bf6 30.Kf2 The position is equal. **30...a5 31.Qa4 Bd8 32.Qd1 Kf7 33.Ke1 b5 34.Kd2 b4 35.Qf3 Bf6 36.hxg6+**

[36.g4 with more complications. bxc3+ 37.bxc3 c5 38.hxg6+ hxg6 39.gxf5 gxf5 40.Qh5+]

36...hxg6 37.g4 Kf8 38.Qe3 fxg4 39.Bxg6

(Diagram)



Threatening mate with Qe8+. **39...bxc3+ 40.bxc3** White threatens Qe8+ and mate. **40...Be5 41.Qxe5** Intending Qe8+ and mate. **41...Qxg6=** Endgame KQ-KQ **42.Ke3 g3** aiming for ...g2. **43.Qb8+ Kf7 44.Qb7+ Ke8 45.Qc8+ Kf7** And now ...Qe4+ would win. **46.Qc7+ Kf8 47.Qd8+ Kg7 48.Qe7+ Kh6** Strongly threatening ... Qe4+! **49.Qh4+ Kg7 50.Qe7+ Kg8 51.Qg5**

[51.Kf3 looks sharper. g2 52.Qd8+ Kf7 53.Qc7+]

51...Qxg5 52.fxg5 Threatens to win with Kf3. KP-KP **52...Kf7 53.Kf3 Kg6 54.Kxg3 Kxg5 55.a4 Kf5 56.Kf3 Kg5 57.Kg3 Kf5** (→ ...Ke4) **58.Kf3 Kg5 59.Kg3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)

½-½

81 **C65**

□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3273**

■ **BitByByte** **2824**

Blitz 25.07.2024

[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+1sec C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Kaidanov,G: 'Inf 59/(356)' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Bc5 5.Nxe5 Nxe5 6.d4 c6 7.dxe5 Nxe4 8.Bd3 d5 9.exd6 Nf6 10.Re1+**

[10.Nc3 Be6 11.Bg5 Bxd6 12.Ne4 Be7 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Nc5 0-0 15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.c3 e5 17.Qe2 g6 18.g3 Qd7 19.Kg2 Rad8 20.Rad1 Qd5+ 21.Kg1 Qc5 22.h4 Kg7 23.Qg4 Qe7 24.Kg2 Rd6 5.♗e2 0-0-0 6. ♗e3_54305 (2681)-Hodge,J (2606) Chess.com INT 2009 CBM 68 ext [Van Wely,L] 1-0 (41)]

10...Be6 White is slightly better. **11.Nc3 Qxd6 12.Bg5N**

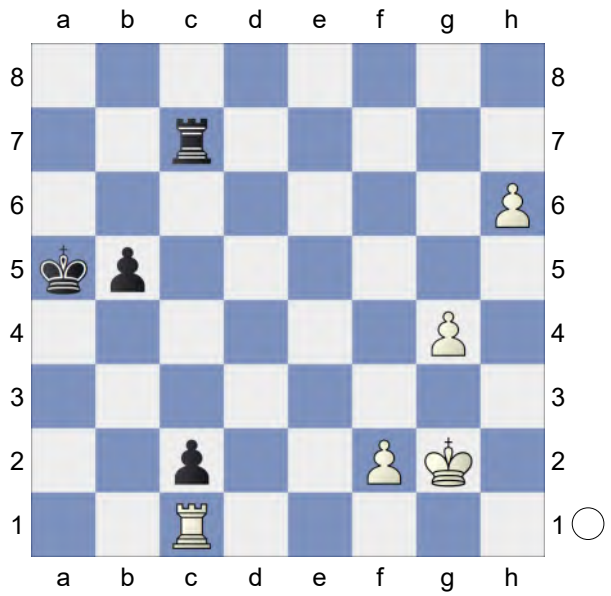
[12.Qf3 0-0-0 *(12...0-0)* 13.Bf5 Qd7 14.Bxe6 fxe6 15.Be3 Bxe3 16.Qxe3 Kb8 17.Qxe6 Qxe6 18.Rxe6 Rd2 19.Re2 Rxe2 20.Nxe2 Rd8 21.Kf1 Kc7 22.Ke1 Ne4 23.f3 Nd6 24.Nf4 Re8+ 25.Kf2 Nc4 26.b3 Na3 Fedorowicz,J (2545)-Kaidanov,G (2640) Long Beach 1993 CBM 039 [Wedberg,Tom] 1-0 (46) 27.c4 Nc2 28.Rd1 c5 29.Ne2 Nb4 30.Rd2 Nc6 31.h4 a6 32.Rd5 b6 33.Nc3 Ne5 34.h5 h6 35.g4 Kc6 36.Kg3 Nd7 37.Ne4 Re6 38.Kf4 Re7 39.a4 a5 40.Ng3 Nf6 41.Nf5 Rf7 Fedorowicz,J (2565)-Gulko,B (2618) Salt Lake City 1999 CBM 073 [Tsesarsky,Ilya] 0-1 (46)]

12...0-0-0 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Ne4 Qf8 15.Nxc5

[15.Nxf6 Bd4 16.Qf3 Qe7=]

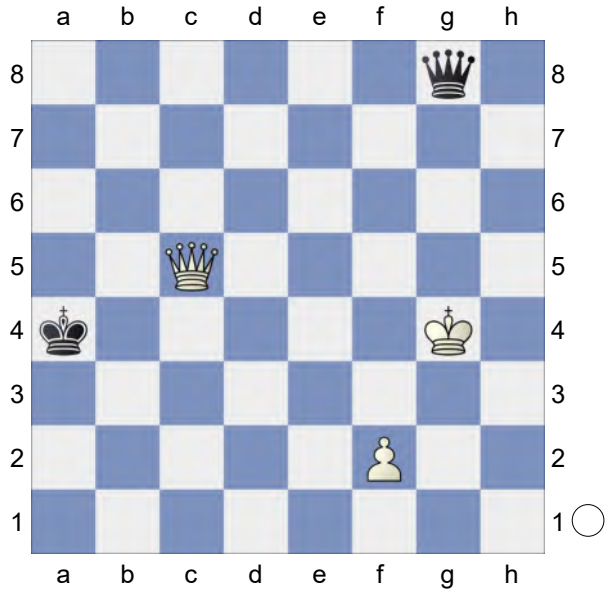
15...Qxc5 16.Qf3 f5 17.Rad1 Rhg8 18.Qh5 Kc7 19.a3 0.37/19
[⌓19.Qxh7 0.68/19 Bd5 20.g3]
19...Qd5 0.89/21
[19...a5± 0.37/19]
20.g3 0.57/20
[White should play 20.Bf1± 0.89/21 Qc5 21.Qxh7]
20...Qc5± 21.Qh6
[21.Qxh7?! Rh8 22.Qg7 Rxh2! 23.Qe5+ *(23.Kxh2? Qxf2+ 24.Kh3 Rh8+ 25.Qxh8 f4+ 26.Kh4 Qxg3+ 27.Kh5 Qh3+ 28.Kg5 Qxh8-+)* 23...Qxe5 24.Rxe5 Rdh8=]
21...a5 Prevents b4. **22.Qf4+**
[22.Qxh7?! Rh8 23.Qg7 Rxh2! 24.Qe5+ *(24.Kxh2? Qxf2+ 25.Kh3 Rh8+ 26.Qxh8 f4+ 27.Kh4 Qxg3+ 28.Kh5 Qh3+ 29.Kg5 Qxh8-+)* 24...Qxe5 25.Rxe5 Rdh8=]
22...Kb6 23.b4 axb4 24.axb4 Qd4 25.Qh6 Qc3! 26.Rb1
[26.Qxh7? Rh8 27.Qxh8 Rxh8-+]
26...Rg6 27.Qe3+
[27.Qxh7 Ba2 28.Qh4 *(28.Bxf5 Bxb1 29.Rxb1 Rf6=; 28.Ra1 Rh8∓)* 28...Rh8=]
27...Qd4 28.Qc1 Rgg8 29.Re3 h5 30.Qe1
[30.Qa3 Ra8 31.Qc1 h4=]
30...f4 0.87/22
[30...Qf6± 0.51/18]
31.Re4± Qd6 32.b5 c5 33.Ra1! Ra8 Against Qa5+ **34.Rxa8** Chess con chili.
[34.Rea4 Rxa4 35.Rxa4 Kc7±]
34...Rxa8 35.Rxf4 Ra3 Prevents Qc3. **36.Bf5 Bxf5 37.Rxf5** Endgame KQR-KQR **37...h4 38.Kg2**
[38.Rxf7 h3±]
38...Qd4 39.Qe7 Ra4 ...h3+! is the strong threat. **40.Rf6+!**
[40.Qxf7 Qe4+ 41.Rf3 *(41.f3? Qe2+ 42.Kh3 Qf1#)* 41...Rc4±]
40...Ka7 41.Rf3 &Bianco is more active.
[Much less strong is 41.Qxf7?! Qe4+ 42.Rf3 Qxc2±]
41...Kb6
[41...h3+? 42.Kxh3 Qc4 43.Kg2+- *(43.Rf4 Qf1+ 44.Kg4 Rxf4+ 45.gxf4 Qg2+ 46.Kf5 Qg6+ 47.Ke5 Qxc2=)*]
42.Qxf7 Qe4
[42...h3+? 43.Kxh3 Qd1 44.Rf6+ Ka7 45.f4+-]
43.Qf5
[Not 43.Qd7 Ra3 44.Qd8+ Kxb5 45.c4+ Kxc4 46.Qxh4 Qxh4 47.gxh4 Ra6∓]
43...Qxf5 44.Rxf5 KR-KR **44...Rc4 45.Rf4 Rxc2 46.Rxh4 Rd2** 1.27/20
[⌓46...Re2 0.84/21]
47.Rh8 0.42/22
[47.g4± 1.27/20 Hoping for g5. Kxb5 48.Rh8]
47...Rd7 1.64/20 This move loses the game for Black.
[47...Kxb5± 0.42/22 48.g4 Rd6]
48.h4+- Rc7 3.24/20
[⌓48...Rg7 1.91/21 49.Kf3 Kxb5]
49.g4 c4 50.Re8 c3 51.Re1 Threatens to win with g5. **51...c2 52.Rc1 Kxb5 53.h5 Ka5** 1.87/22
[53...Ka4± 1.50/24 was necessary.]
54.h6 b5

(Diagram)

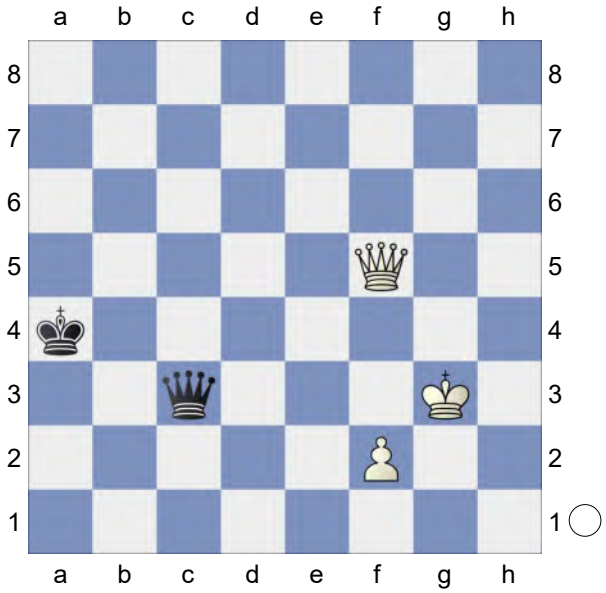


55.Rxc2!! Rxc2 KR-K3P **56.h7 Rc8 57.g5** aiming for g6. **57...b4** White must now prevent ...b3. **58.g6 b3** Strongly threatening ...b2. **59.g7 b2 60.g8Q b1Q 61.Qxc8** Threatening mate with Qa8+. KQ-KQ **61...Qg6+ 62.Kf3 Qxh7 63.Qc5+ Ka4 64.Kg4** Against Qh3+ **64...Qg8+** 1.97/24

[64...Qe4+± 1.52/23 keeps fighting. 65.f4 Qg2+ 66.Kf5 Qh3+ 67.Kg6 Qe6+ 68.Kg7 Qg4+ 69.Qg5 Qd7+ 70.Kh6 Qe6+ 71.Qg6 Qe3]



65.Qg5! Qc8+ 66.Qf5 Qg8+ 67.Kh3 And now Qg4+ would win. **67...Qh8+ 68.Kg3 Qc3+**



69.Qf3! Qe1 70.Qf4+ Kb5 71.Kg4 Qe8 72.Qf5+ Kb4 73.f4 Kc4 74.Kg5 Qe3 75.Kg6 Kb3 76.Qd5+ Kc2 77.f5 Qg3+ 78.Kf7 Qc7+ 79.Ke8 Qc8+ 80.Ke7 Qc7+ 81.Qd7 Qc5+ 82.Kd8 White threatens Qc7 and mate. **82...Qb4 83.Qc6+ Kb1 84.f6 Qf8+?** 10.32/24

[84...Ka1 3.18/20 85.Qa6+ Kb1 86.Qf1+ Ka2 87.Qe2+ Kb1]

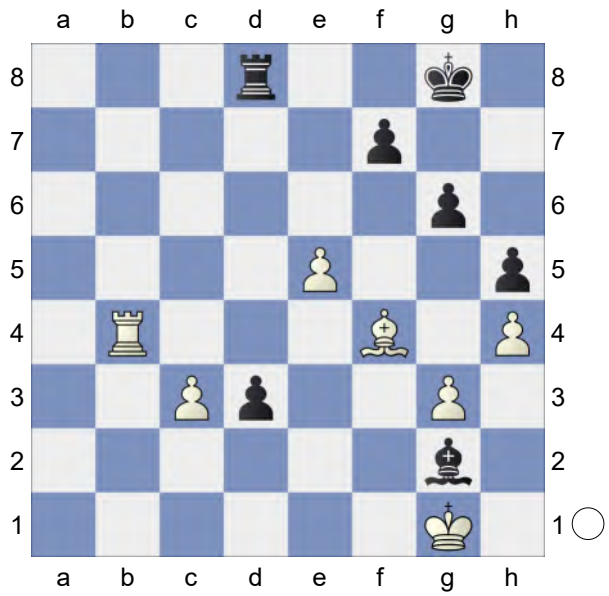
85.Kc7 Qf7+ 86.Kb8 Qg8+ 87.Ka7 Kb2 88.Qb7+ Ka2 89.f7 Qf8 90.Qd5+ Ka1 91.Kb7 Qb4+ 92.Kc6 Qa4+ 93.Kd6 Qb4+ 94.Qc5 Qb8+ 95.Ke6 Qb3+ 96.Kf6 Qf3+ 97.Qf5 Qc6+ 98.Kg7 Intending Qf6+ and mate. **98...Qb7 99.Qf1+ Ka2 100.Kh8 Qb2+ 101.Kg8 Qb3 102.Qa6+ Kb2 103.Kg7 Qg3+ 104.Qg6 Qc7 105.Kg8 Qb8+ 106.f8Q Qb3+ 107.Kg7 Qc3+ 108.Qgf6 Kc2 109.Qxc3+ Kxc3 110.Qc5+ Kb2 111.Kf6 Kb3 112.Ke5 Kb2 113.Kd4 Kb3 114.Kd3** White wants to mate with Qb6+. **114...Ka4 115.Qb6** White mates. **115...Ka3 116.Kc3 Ka2 117.Qb2#**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
1-0

82 **C67**
□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3262**
■ **NimsiluBot** **2919**
Blitz 17.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 The following game was another strong blow in Carlsen's confidence. After a good opening and middlegame, he reached a winning position and surprisingly missed his chances, reaching a drawish ending. This is unlike Magnus, who almost never misses an opportunity to win. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re2 b6 11.Re1 Bb7**
[11...Re8 12.Bf4 Rxe1 13.Qxe1 Qe7 *(13...Ne8 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qd2 d5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.Bd3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Qxd5 Be7 22.Re3 Bf8 23.Rh3+ Kg8 24.Qh5 f6 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.Qh5+ Kg8 27.g4 Qe8 28.Qh7+* Svane,R (2594)-McShane,L (2675) Germany 2021 CBM 204 Extra [Edouard,Romain] 1-0 (36)*)* 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qxe7 Bxe7 16.a4 a6 17.g3 g5 18.Bxd6 Bxd6 19.Bg2 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 f5 21.Nd5 Kf7 22.Ne3 Kf6 23.Nc4 Bf8 24.Re1 Rd8 25.f4 gxf4 26.gxf4 Carlsen,M (2876)-Giri,A (2773) Stavanger 2015 [Flores Rios, Mauricio] ½-½ (78)]
12.Bf4 Ne4N
[12...Nf5 13.c3 Re8 14.Nd2 Rxe1 15.Qxe1 g5 16.Bg3 Nxg3 17.hxg3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Ne4 Bxe4 20.Qxe4 Rb8 21.Rd1 Rxb2 22.Qf5 d6 23.Rd3 Kg7 24.Rf3 1 Chapter 16 Berlin-10...b6 Spanish for White part]
13.Nd2 Re8 14.a4 c5 15.Nf3 h5 16.Be3 g6 17.c3 Qc7 18.Qb3 -0.08/17
[18.a5 0.24/17 might be stronger.]
18...Rac8 19.a5 c4 20.Qa4 d5 21.axb6 axb6 22.g3
[22.Ne5 looks sharper. Kg7 23.Be2 Re6 24.Qd1]
22...Ra8 23.Qc2 b5 24.Rxa8 Rxa8 25.Bg2 b4 26.cxb4 Qb6 27.Ne5 aiming for Bxe4. **27...Qxb4 28.Rd1** -0.23/20
[28.Rc1 0.12/21 deserves consideration.]
28...Rc8 29.h4 Bg7 30.Ra1 Qb5 31.Ra2 Rd8
[31...Nd6!?]
32.Qa4 Qxa4 33.Rxa4 Bxe5 34.dxe5 d4 35.Bf4
[Wrong is 35.Rxc4? dxe3 36.fxe3 *(36.Bxe4? e2-+)* 36...Rd1+ 37.Kh2 Rd2-+]
35...c3 36.Rb4 Nxg3! 37.fxg3
[But not 37.Bxb7 Ne2+ 38.Kh2 c2∓]
37...Bxg2 38.bxc3= Endgame KRB-KRB **38...d3!**

(Diagram)

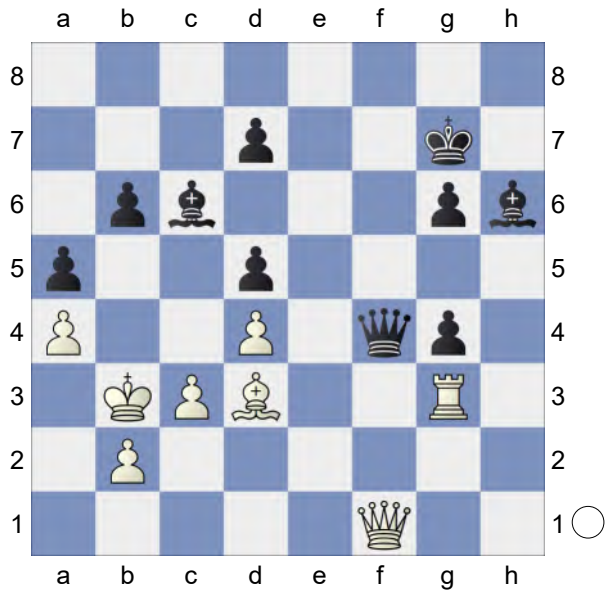


Threatens to win with ...d2. **39.Rd4 Rxd4 40.cxd4± KB-KB 40...Bd5 41.Kf2 Kf8 42.Ke3 Ke7 43.Kxd3 Ke6 44.Kc3 Be4 45.Kc4 Bd5+ 46.Kb4 Ba2 47.Kc5 Bb3 48.Bg5 Ba2** 0.44/31
[48...Bd5= 0.01/28 is more appropriate.]
49.Bf6 0.01/30
[49.Kc6± 0.44/31]
49...Bd5!= 50.Bg5 Bg2 51.Kc4 Bf1+ 52.Kc5 Hoping for d5+. **52...Bg2** Inhibits d5+. **53.Kc4** 0.01/27
[53.Kb6± 0.39/25 is superior.]
53...Bf1+! 54.Kc5 And now d5+ would win. **54...Bg2!** Against d5+. Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) / Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

83 **C67**
□ **LeelaMultiPoss** **3260**
■ **BitByByte** **2816**
Blitz 16.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

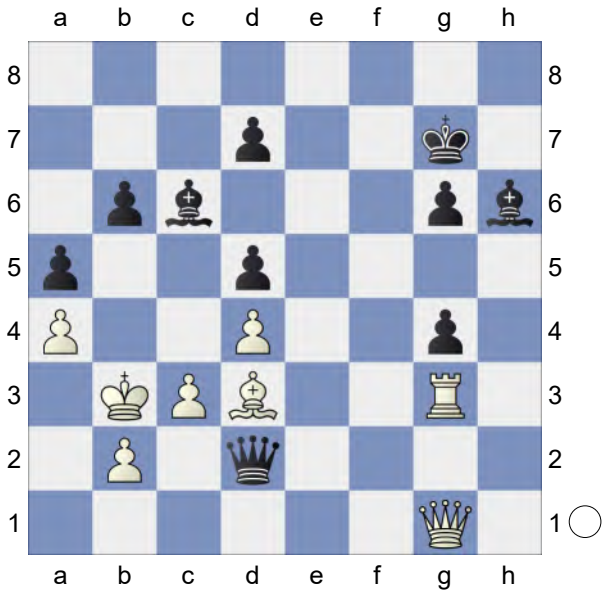
Blitz 3min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 The following game was another strong blow in Carlsen's confidence. After a good opening and middlegame, he reached a winning position and surprisingly missed his chances, reaching a drawish ending. This is unlike Magnus, who almost never misses an opportunity to win. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re2 b6 11.Re1 Re8** The position is equal. **12.Bf4 Ne4N**
[12...Rxe1 13.Qxe1 Ne8 *(13...Qe7 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qxe7 Bxe7 16.a4 a6 17.g3 g5 18.Bxd6 Bxd6 19.Bg2 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 f5 21.Nd5 Kf7 22.Ne3 Kf6 23.Nc4 Bf8 24.Re1 Rd8 25.f4 gxf4 26.gxf4 b5 27.axb5 axb5 28.Ne3* Carlsen,M (2876)-Giri,A (2773) Stavanger 2015 [Flores Rios, Mauricio] ½-½ (78) *c6 29.Kf3 Ra8 30.Rg1 Ra2 31.b3 c5 32.Rg8 Kf7 33.Rg2 cxd4 34.Nxf5 d3 35.cxd3 Ra1 36.Nd4 b4 37.Rg5 Rb1 38.Rf5+ Ke8 39.Rb5 Rf1+ 40.Ke4 Re1+ 41.Kf5 Rd1 42.Re5+ Kf7 43.Rd5* Molina,R (2857)-10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2769) Mar del Plata 2016 CBM 056 Extra [Upsala Nya Tidning] ½-½ (78) *)* 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qd2 d5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.Bd3 c5 18.dxc5 bxc5 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bxh7+ Kxh7 21.Qxd5 Be7 22.Re3 Bf8 23.Rh3+ Kg8 24.Qh5 f6 25.Qh8+ Kf7 26.Qh5+ Kg8 27.g4 Wirsching,A (2594)-Morozov,Y (2675) Vilnius 2021 CBM 008 [Nyback/Meyer, CD] 1-0 (36) Qe8 28.Qh7+ Kf7 29.Qh5+ Kg8 30.Qh7+ Kf7 31.Re3 Qc6 32.g5 fxg5 33.Bxd6 Bxd6 34.Qf5+ Kg8 35.Qe6+ Kf8 36.Re5 1-0 (36) Svane,R (2594)-McShane,L (2675) Germany 2021 CBM 204 Extra

[Edouard,Romain]]
13.f3 Nd6 14.Bxd6 cxd6 15.Rxe8+ Qxe8 16.Qd2 Prevents Qe3+. **16...Bb7 17.c3 a6 18.a4 d5 19.Na3 Bc6 20.Nc2 a5 21.Bb5 Qf8 22.Bd3 g6 23.g3 Rb8 24.Qe2 Re8 25.Ne3 Qd6 26.f4 Qe6 27.Kf2 Qh3 28.Ke1 h5 29.Kd2 Bg7 30.Qf2 Bh6 31.Kc2 Re7 32.Kb3 Kf8 33.Nc2 Re6 34.Rf1 Rf6 35.Ne3 Kg7** 0.80/23
[35...Qe6± 0.41/20]
36.Qe2!± &Bianco is more active. **36...Re6 37.Rf3 Re8 38.Qf2 Qe6** Prevents g4. **39.Qf1 f5** 1.19/22
[39...Qd6± 0.66/22]
40.h3! aiming for g4! **40...Qf6 41.g4! hxg4 42.hxg4 Rxe3 43.Rxe3 fxg4 44.Rg3 Qxf4**



45.Qg1
[45.Qxf4?! Bxf4 46.Rxg4 g5±]
45...Qd2

(Diagram)



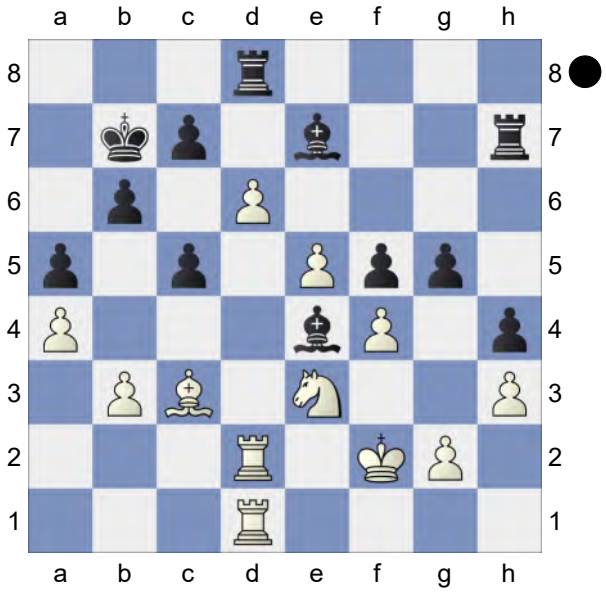
46.Qb1! White has strong compensation. **46...Qf4 47.Rg1 Qg5 48.Be2 Qf5 49.Qe1** 1.41/21
[White should play 49.Qd1+- 1.86/23]
49...Be3 2.22/24
[49...Qe6± 1.41/21 50.Qf1 *(50.Bxg4 Qxe1 51.Rxe1 Kf7±; 50.Rxg4 b5±)* 50...Qf7]
50.Rxg4+- g5 51.Rg2 Bf4 52.Qd1 Hoping for Bd3. **52...Qh3** 2.54/22
[52...Kf6 1.84/22 was worth a try. 53.Bg4 Qg6]
53.Rg1 Black must now prevent Bd3. **53...Kf6 54.Re1** Threatens to win with Bd3. **54...Qg2** 3.35/20
[⌓54...Qh2 2.15/21 55.Rh1 Qg2]
55.Bd3 1.37/22
[55.Qb1+- 3.35/20 is more deadly. Bg3 56.Bh5 Bxa4+ 57.Kxa4 Bxe1 58.Qxe1]
55...Bxa4+? 6.12/23 This move loses the game for Black.
[55...Qd2± 1.37/22]
56.Kxa4 Qh5 is the strong threat. **56...Qxb2 57.Qb3** Against b5+ **57...Qxb3+ 58.Kxb3 g4 59.Bb5 d6 60.Kc2 Kg5 61.Kd3 Bg3 62.Re8 Bf2 63.Rg8+ Kh5 64.Bc6 Be1 65.Rb8**

Kg6 66.Rxb6 Kf6 67.Ra6 Ke6 68.Rxa5 Ke7 69.Ra8 Threatening mate with Re8+. **69...Kf6 70.Bxd5 Ke7 71.c4 Bf2 72.c5 dxc5 73.dxc5 Bxc5 74.Ke4 g3 75.Rg8 Bd6 76.Rg6 Bb8 77.Kf5 Bc7 78.Re6+ Kd7?** #17/24
[78...Kd8+- 3.93/23 79.Rg6 Ke7 80.Rg7+ Kd6]
79.Bc6+ Kc8 80.Re7 Bd8 81.Rh7 Kb8 82.Ke6 Bg5 83.Bg2 Kc8 84.Bb7+ Kd8 85.Rd7+ Ke8 86.Rg7 White mates. **86...Bh6 87.Rg6 Kd8 88.Rxh6 Kc7 89.Bd5 Kb6 90.Kd6 g2 91.Bxg2 Kb5 92.Rh4 Kb6 93.Bc6 Ka5 94.Kc5 Ka6 95.Ra4#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) / Black=0.22 (precise)
1-0

84 **C67**
□ **RexherBot** **2956**
■ **Boller1910** **3034**
Blitz 12.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

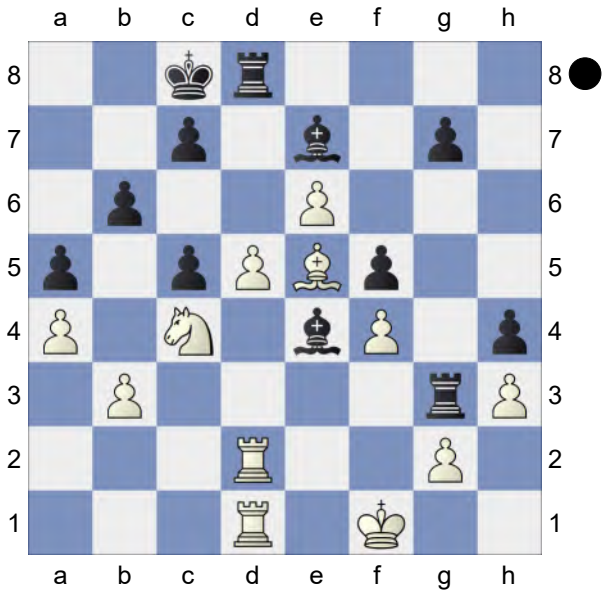
Blitz 3min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 With the score being 51/2-41/2 to Carlsen with 2 games to go, the match has reached its crucial moment. Yet still there maybe was an expectation of silence before the storm? A draw in this game at first seemed like a good result for both, as Carlsen would guarantee himself a playoff, while Anand could gamble everything with the white pieces in game 12. In tournaments situations might often arise in which both player have mutual interests in a draw, but in matches it is important to remember that what is good for your oppenent, is bad for you! The discussions about the right strategy in these situations reflect that its probably a very close decision, with no obvious "correct" answer. In Brissago 2004, against Leko, Kramnik choose the Benoni as Black, in order to gamble, while here Anand choose the Berlin, seemingly happy to make a draw. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 h6 11.b3 Kc8 12.Bb2 b6 13.Rad1 c5 14.Nd5**
[14.Rfe1 Be6 15.Nd5 g5 16.c4 Kb7 17.Kh2 a5 18.a4 Ne7 19.g4 Ng6 20.Kg3 Be7 21.Nd2 Rhd8 22.Ne4 Bf8 23.Nef6 b5 24.Bc3 bxa4 25.bxa4 Kc6 26.Kf3 Rdb8 27.Ke4 Rb4 28.Bxb4 cxb4 Carlsen,M (2863)-Anand,V (2792) Sochi 2014 CBM 164 [Nielsen,Peter Heine] 1-0 (45)]
14...a5 15.a4 Ne7N
[15...c4 16.g4 Ne7 17.Nf4
A) 17...Nc6 18.e6 fxe6 19.Ng6 Rg8 20.Nfe5 Nxe5 21.Nxe5 Be8 22.Nxc4 b5 23.axb5 Bxb5 24.Rd4 a4 25.Ra1 Rb8 26.Ba3 *(26.Rad1 Bc5 27.Re4 axb3 28.cxb3 Bxc4 29.Rxc4 Rxb3 30.Be5 Bb6 31.Rdc1* ½-½ (31) Robson,N (2674)-Pappier,C (2498) Lechenicher SchachServer 2010 OM Corr 202003 [Morgado,Juan Sebastian]*)* 26...axb3 27.cxb3 Bxc4 28.bxc4 Ra8 29.Bb2 Rxa1+ 30.Bxa1 Bd6 31.Re4 9.Nc3 [GM Michael Roiz] (31);
B) 17...cxb3 18.cxb3 Nc6 19.e6 fxe6 20.Ne5 Nxe5 21.Bxe5 Rh7 22.Ng6 Bc5 23.Kg2 Be8 24.Nf4 Bd7 25.Ng6 Be8 ½-½ (25) Adams,M (2682)-Bacrot,E (2709) Novi Sad 2009 CI1-130 [RR]]
16.c4 Nxd5 17.cxd5

[17.Rxd5 Be7=]
17...Bf5 18.Rd2 Inhibits Bc2. **18...Be7! 19.Nh2 h5** Against Ng4 **20.f4 Kb7 21.Rfd1 Rad8 22.Nf1 h4 23.Ne3 Be4 24.Bc3** 0.01/21
[24.e6± 0.55/19]
24...Rh6= 25.Re2 Rh5 26.Kf2 f5 27.Red2 Rh6 28.Re2 Rh7 29.Red2 -0.59/23
[29.Kg1= 0.01/22]
29...Rh6 -0.01/19
[29...g5∓ -0.59/23 30.d6



gxf4!]
30.Re2 Rf8 31.e6 Rg6 The position is equal. **32.Be5 Rd8 33.Red2 Kc8 34.Kf1 Rg3 35.Nc4**

(Diagram)



d6 is the strong threat. **35...Rd6 36.Bxd6**
[Reject 36.Nxd6+ cxd6 37.Ba1 g5 38.fxg5 Bxg5∓]
36...Bxd6 37.Nxd6+ cxd6 Endgame KRR-KRB **38.Rb2! Kd8 39.Rdd2 Ke8 40.Rd1 Kd8 41.Rdd2 Ke7 42.Rd1! Rc3 43.Kf2 Rg3 44.Kf1 Ke8 45.Rdd2 Rc3 46.Kf2 Rg3 47.Ke1 Ke7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

85 **C67**
□ **ArasanX** **3038**
■ **Cheng-4** **2754**
Rapid 04.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Bd7 10.Rd1 Be7 11.g4 Nh4** The position is equal. **12.Nxh4 Bxh4 13.Nd2 Kc8 14.Nf3 Be7 15.Bg5 Bc5 16.Rd3 Be6 17.Kg2N**

[17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Rxe3 Kd7 19.Rd1+ *(19.Nd4 h5 20.Rd1 Ke7 21.Nf5+ Kf8 22.Red3 Re8 23.Rd8 g6 24.Ne3 hxg4 25.hxg4 Kg7 26.Rxe8 Rxe8 27.f4* Vachier Lagrave,M (2749)-Grischuk,A (2778) Zagreb (blitz) 149/(113) 2021 Chess Informant 149 [Milanovic,Danilo]*)* 19...Ke7 20.Nd4 Rad8 21.Red3 g6 22.Nxe6 Rxd3 23.Rxd3 Kxe6 29 Chapter-Games Game]

[17.Re1 h5 18.a3 hxg4 19.hxg4 a5 20.Re4 b5 21.Be3 Be7 22.Kg2 Kb7 23.Kg3 c5 24.Bg5 c4 25.Rd1 Bc5 26.c3 c6 27.Nh4 Rh7 28.f4 Bd5 29.Re2 b4 30.a4 Re8 31.f5 f6 Firouzja,A (2744)-Grischuk,A (2708) Chess.com INT 2024 1-0 (44)]

17...Bc4 18.Rc3 b5 19.a3 Hoping for b3. **19...Bb6! 20.Be3 Kb7 21.Re1 h5 22.Ng5 Bd5+ 23.Kg3 Ba5 24.b4 Bb6 25.Bxb6 h4+** 0.31/20

[25...axb6= -0.01/20 feels stronger. 26.f4 hxg4 27.hxg4 g6]

26.Kf4± axb6 27.Ree3

[27.Kf5 is more complex. Rh6 28.Nf3 c5 29.Kg5]

27...Rhe8 0.74/22 Inhibits e6.

[27...Raf8= 0.01/21 remains equal.]

28.Kf5± Rf8 29.f3 0.01/22

[29.f4± 0.49/21 was preferrable.]

29...Bc4 0.70/21

[29...Rae8!= 0.01/22]

30.Ne4 Rad8 0.75/21

[30...Rae8± 0.40/22 should be considered.]

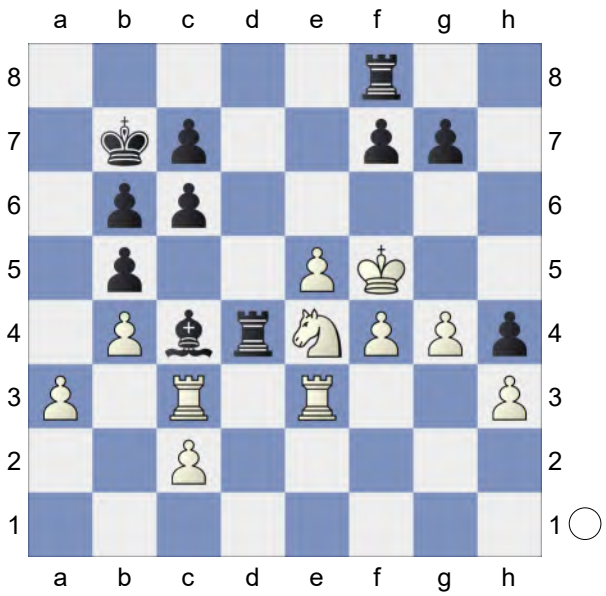
31.f4 0.29/21

[31.Kg5± 0.75/21]

31...Rd4 1.01/21

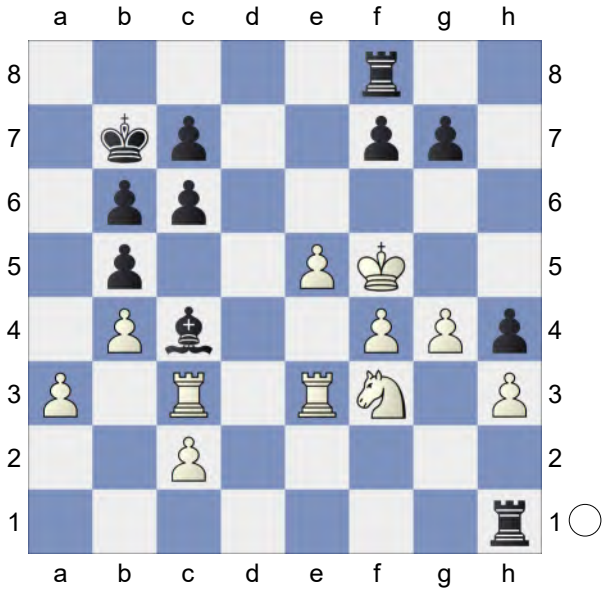
[31...Rh8!= 0.29/21]

(Diagram)



32.Ng5! Rd1 33.Nf3 Rh1 1.14/23

[Black should play 33...Rh8 0.82/20]



34.Nd2! Bd5 35.Kg5 Rg8 36.f5 g6? 2.72/20 A mistake that costs the game.

[36...Rh8± 1.09/19]

37.f6+- Re8 38.Kxh4 Rd1 39.Rcd3 Be6 40.Kg5 Rc1? 4.72/21

[40...Rh1 2.91/20 41.Kh6 Rc1]

41.Kh6 Rxc2 42.Nf3 Rf2

[42...Rh8+? 43.Kg7 Rc8 44.Nd4+-]

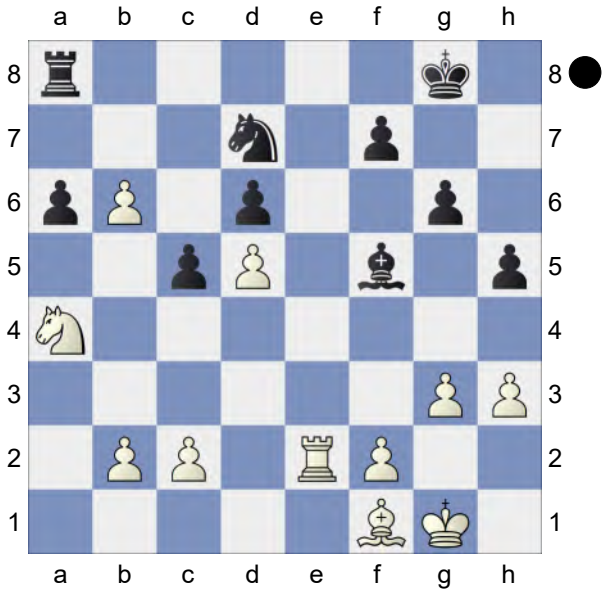
43.Kg7 Rxf3? 6.21/22

[43...c5 3.19/17 44.Ng5 c4]

44.Rxf3 Endgame KRR-KRB **44...c5 45.h4 cxb4 46.axb4 c5 47.h5 gxh5 48.gxh5 c4 49.Rde3 Rd8 50.h6 Rd4 51.Rg3 Rh4 52.h7 Kc6 53.Rg1 Bf5 54.h8Q Rxh8 55.Kxh8** White threatens e6! and mate. **55...c3 56.Rd1 c2 57.Rc3+ Kb7 58.Rd6** White mates. **58...Bg6 59.e6 fxe6 60.Rxe6 c1Q 61.Rxc1 Bc2 62.Rxc2 Ka8 63.f7 Kb8 64.Re7 Ka8 65.f8Q#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.43
1-0

86 **C67**
□ **RaspFish** **3060**
■ **Mr-Chess-Berserk** **3032**
Rapid 07.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

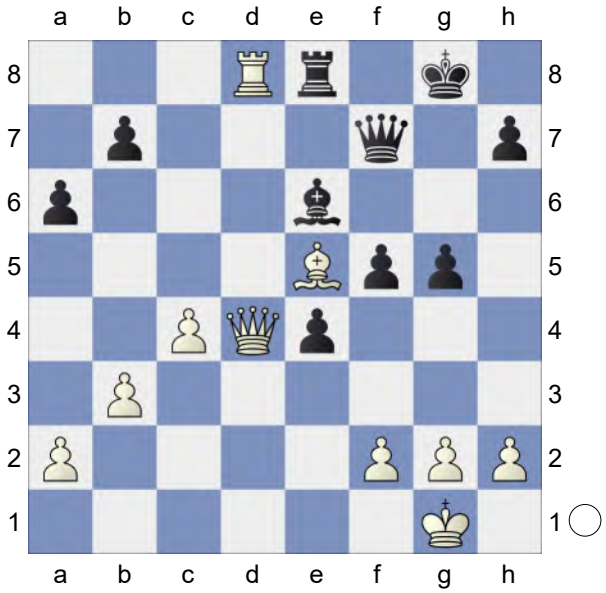
Blitz 8min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Fireworks in the Berlin? In this volume of Informant I will present to you my ideas and findings in the trendy Berlin line. Avoiding the so-called "Berlin Ending" led to some interesting variations and, of course, to quite a few dull ones. The line I am exploring in this article can be played in various ways, depending on the players motivation, style, or tournament circumstances. I hope you will find my analysis to be enlightening and inspiring, so you may handle the lines in question with confidence! **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Rxe8+ Nxe8 12.d5 d6 13.Qd3N**
[13.Nd2
A) 13...c6 14.Nc4 cxd5 15.Qxd5 Qe7 *(15...Qc7 16.c3 Be6 17.Qa5 d5 18.Qxc7 Nxc7 19.Nd6 d4 20.Ne4 dxc3 21.Nxf6+ gxf6 22.bxc3 Nd5 23.Bd2 Rc8 24.Rb1 Nb6* Stoeckert,M-Hernandez,A corr 139/(127) 2018 [RR]*)* 16.Ne3 Be6 17.Qf3 Rc8 18.c3 Bg5 19.Nf5 Qf6 20.Bxg5 Qxg5 21.Nd4 Bd5 22.Qf5 Qxf5 23.Nxf5 Kf8 24.Ne3 Be6 25.a4 Nf6 26.Rd1 Ke7 27.f3 Rc5 28.Rd4 Harikrishna,P (2706)-Nakamura,H (2893) Tata Steel India - Blitz 2018 [GM Dejan Bojkov] 1-0 (54);
B) 13...Bf5 14.Nc4 Qd7 *(14...c6 15.c3 Be4 16.dxc6 bxc6 17.Qa4 d5 18.Nd2 Bg6 19.Nb3* Hinteregger,A (2733)-Rudolph,J (2625) Russia 2019 200 Traps In The Opening [Papp,Petra]*)* 15.c3 c6 16.Bf4 cxd5 17.Qxd5 Be6 18.Qa5 Bd8 19.Qa3 5.Re1 Nd6... d5 ideas-Theory [Shyam,Sundar Mohanraj]]
13...g6 14.a4 Bf5 15.Qd1 h5 16.h3 Qe7 17.Nc3 c5 18.Bf4 Be5 19.Qe2 Qf6 20.Bxe5 Qxe5 21.Re1 Qxe2 22.Rxe2 a6 23.a5 Nf6 24.Na4 Nd7 25.g3 b5 26.axb6



Hoping for f3. **26...Rb8 27.f3** Strongly threatening g4. **27...g5 28.Rd2 Nxb6 29.Nc3 h4** The position is equal. **30.Kf2 hxg3+ 31.Kxg3 Nd7 32.b3 Kg7 33.Bxa6 Nf6 34.Bf1 Nh5+ 35.Kf2 Nf4 36.Nb5 Rd8 37.c4 Kf6 38.Kg3 Nh5+ 39.Kf2 Nf4 40.Kg3 Nh5+ 41.Kg2 Nf4+ 42.Kg3** A rather calm draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

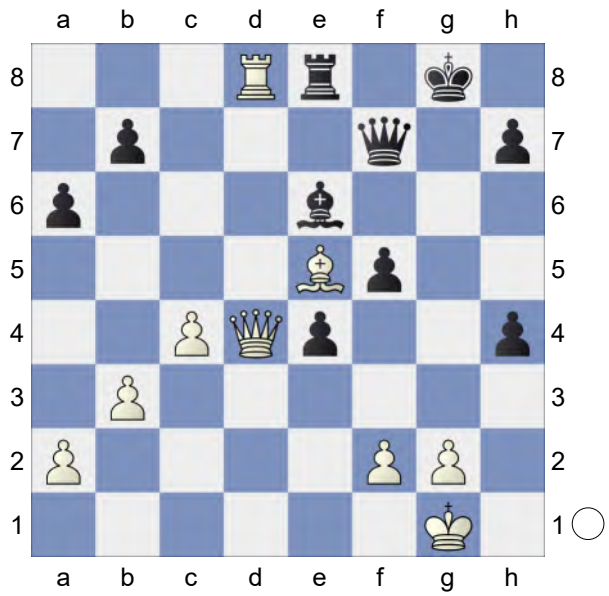
87 **C67**
□ **Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar** **2797**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2726**
London WR Masters (2.2) 15.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Ba4** -0.24/27
[⌓6.Bxc6 0.16/29 bxc6 7.dxe5]
6...e4 7.Re1 Be7 8.Ne5 The position is equal. **8...0-0** White should prevent ...f6. **9.Nc3 f5 10.Bf4!?** Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **10...Nxe5 11.dxe5 Nf7 12.Bb3 Kh8! 13.Bxf7 Rxf7 14.Qh5**
[14.Nd5!?]
14...Kg8N
[14...Qf8 0.00/27 14...Qe8 -0.32 15.Rad1 -0.46/24 *(15.Nb5=* 0.00/27) 15...b6 0.29/27 *(*Better is *15...c6!∓* -0.46/24) 16.Nd5 -0.14/25 *(16.Nb5!* 0.29/27 is more appropriate.) 16...Bd8!= 17.Bg5 g6 18.Qh4! Bxg5 19.Qxg5 Strongly threatening e6! d6 20.Nf4 Bb7 21.exd6 cxd6 1-0 Naroditsky,D (2622)-Ippolito,D (2381) Charlotte op 2023 (6) 22.h4 Qd8 23.Qh6 Qf6 24.Re3 Rg8 25.Rg3 Rgg7 26.Rg5 Kg8 27.h5 gxh5 28.Qxf6 Rxf6 29.Rxg7+ Kxg7 30.Nxh5+ 1-0 (30) Naroditsky,D (2622)-Ippolito,D (2381) Charlotte 2023]
15.Nd5 d6! Threatens to win with ... dxe5. **16.Rad1 Be6 17.Nxe7+ Qxe7 18.exd6 cxd6 19.Rxd6 Rd8 20.Red1 Rxd6**
[20...Rff8 with more complications. 21.b3 Rxd6 22.Bxd6 Qf7]
21.Rxd6 Rf8 22.Qd1 Re8 23.Qd4 a6 24.c4 Qf7 25.b3 Re7 26.Rd8+ Re8 27.Be5! &Bianco is more active. **27...g5** 2.17/25
[27...Qe7± 0.78/30 28.Rd6 b5]



28.h4 1.21/27
[White should try 28.Qb6!+- 2.17/25]
28...gxh4 2.17/22
[28...h6± 1.21/27 29.hxg5 hxg5]

(Diagram)



29.Qd2!→ White threatens Qg5+ and mate. White wants a kill. **29...f4 30.Bxf4** Bh6 is the strong threat. **30...Qe7 31.Rxe8+ Qxe8 32.Bh6** Threatening mate with Qg5+. **32...Qe7 33.Qf4** Inhibits Qf6. **33...Bd7 34.Bg5 Qe6 35.Bxh4 e3?** 3.30/22

[35...Bc6± 1.48/35 36.Kf1 e3]

36.f3

[36.fxe3 Bc6 37.Qg5+ Qg6±]

[Less strong is 36.Qxe3 Qxe3 37.fxe3 Bf5±]

36...e2 37.Be1

[Weaker is 37.Qg5+ Kf7±]

37...Qb6+ 38.Kh2 Qg6 39.Qd2 Qe6 40.Kg1 b5 41.c5 a5 42.Kf2 b4 43.Qg5+ Kf7 44.Qf4+ Kg6 45.Qg3+

[Not 45.Bd2 Bb5+-]

45...Kf6 46.Qc7 Qd5 47.Qxa5 White is clearly winning. **47...Qd4+ 48.Kxe2 Qe5+ 49.Kf1 Bf5 50.Qxb4** And now Bc3 would win. **50...Bd3+ 51.Kf2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.21 (precise)

1-0

88 **C65**

□ **Harikrishna,Pentala** **2695**

■ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2680**

87th Tata Steel Masters (6.6) 24.01.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C66: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz Defence **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 a6 6.Bxc6+ bxc6 7.Re1 c5**

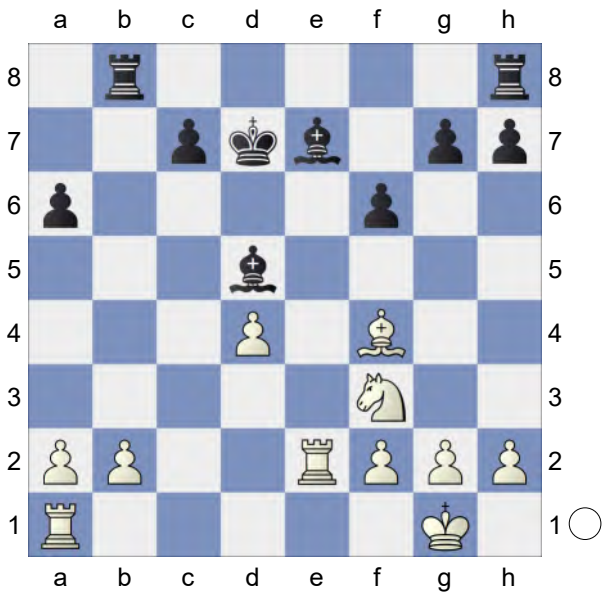
[7...a5 8.d4 Nd7 9.dxe5 *(9.b3 a4 10.Bb2 f6 11.Nc3 a3 12.Bc1 c5 13.d5 g6 14.Nb1 Bg7 15.Nxa3 0-0 16.Nb5 h6 17.Nh4 Ba6 18.c4 Bxb5 19.cxb5 Kh7 20.Qg4 Qe8 21.Nxg6 Qxg6 22.Qxd7 f5 23.Qxc7 Rf7* 0-1 Vokhidov,S (2578)-Kuzubov,Y (2625) Julius Baer Rapid Div 3 L 2023 (2.1) *)* 9...dxe5 10.Bd2 Bd6 11.Na3 Bxa3 12.bxa3 0-0 13.Re3 Qe7 14.Ne1 Nb6 15.Rc3 Na4 16.Rg3 f6 17.Nd3 Be6 18.Qe1 Nc5 19.Bxa5 Nxe4 20.Bb4 Nd6 21.Nc5 Bd5 22.a4 0-1 Xiong,J (2692)-Dardha,D (2606) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Dec Early blitz 2022 (9)]

8.c3 White is slightly better. **8...Bb7 9.Qc2N**

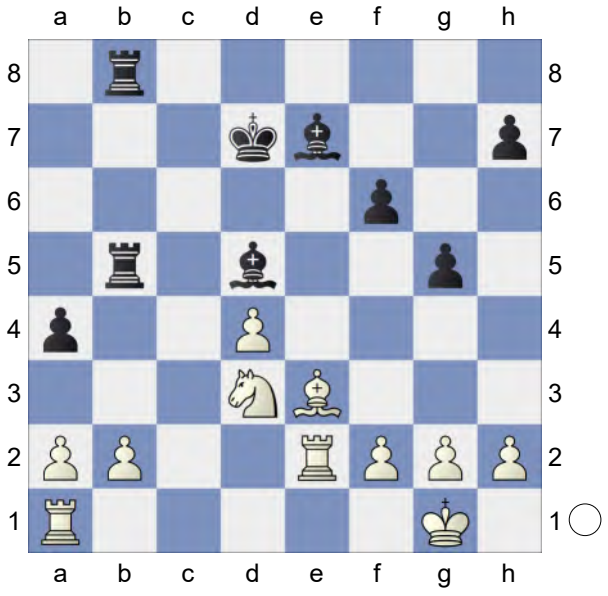
[9.d4 Nxe4 10.dxe5 d5 11.e6 fxe6 12.Ne5 Nf6 13.Qa4+ c6 14.c4 27. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 d6 5.O-O a6]

9...Be7 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 d5 12.Qb3 Rb8 13.Qa4+ Qd7 14.Qxd7+ Nxd7 15.exd5! e4 16.Rxe4 Nf6 17.Re2 Nxd5 18.Nc3 f6 Wards off Bg5 **19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bf4 Kd7**

(Diagram)



21.Bxc7! Decoy **21...Rb5**
[21...Rbe8 22.Bg3]
22.Bf4 g5 23.Be3 0.37/25
[23.Bg3± 0.82/24]
23...a5± 24.Ne1 a4 25.Nd3 Rhb8 0.93/24
[25...Bc4± 0.35/25 26.Rd1 *(26.Rd2 Bxd3 27.Rxd3 Rxb2=)* 26...Ra8]



26.Rd1 0.38/25
[26.Ree1!± 0.93/24]
26...Bxa2 A strong pair of Bishops.
27.Nc5+ Ke8
[27...Bxc5 28.dxc5+ Kc7 29.Bd4±]
28.Bc1
[28.Nxa4 Bb3 29.Rde1 *(29.Ra1 Ra8∓)* 29...Bxa4 30.Bxg5 Rxg5∓]
28...Bc4 29.Re3 Kf7 30.Nxa4 Ra5 31.Nc3 Ra1 32.Bd2 Ra7 33.Bc1 Ra1 34.Rde1 Bd8 0.72/23
[34...Bf8= 0.14/24 keeps the balance.]
35.h3 0.16/26
[White should play 35.d5± 0.72/23]
35...Kg6 36.d5 Ba5 37.d6 Rd8 38.Re4 Bf7 39.Rd4 Bb6 40.Rd2
[40.Ra4 simplifies Rxa4 41.Nxa4 Rxd6 42.Nxb6 Rxb6 43.Kh2]
40...Bc5 The position is equal. **41.d7 Ra7**
[41...Bb3 42.Rd3 Bc4 43.Rdd1 Bb3]
42.Rde2 Raxd7 43.Be3 Bf8 44.Ra1 Rb7 45.Rc2 Be6 46.Ra6 Bf5 47.Rd2 Rxd2 48.Bxd2 And now Nd5 would win.
[48.g4 keeps more tension. Rd3 49.gxf5+ Kxf5 50.Ra5+]
48...Kf7 49.Be3 Rxb2 50.Bd4 Be6 51.Ra7+ Kg6 52.Ra6 Kf7 53.Ra7+ Kg6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless) **54.Ra6 ½-½**

89 **C67**
□ **Nguyen,Thai Dai Van** **2668**
■ **Navara,D..** **2677**
7th Prague Masters 2025 (6) 04.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2686 v3 ↻ 2.00GHz 1995 MHz W=15.3 plies; 1. 871kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg B=15.2 plies; 2.088kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4**

5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Rxe8+

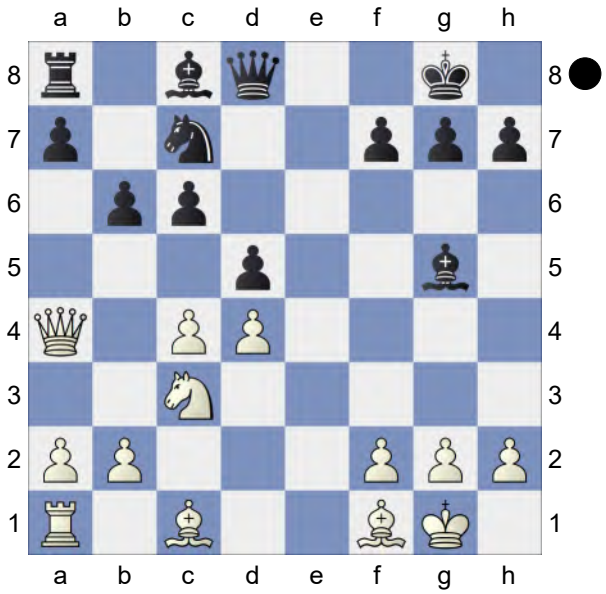
[11.Nd5 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 b6 13.Nxf6+ *(13.d3 Bb7 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Qb4 c5 16.Qf4 Qxf4 17.Bxf4 Nf5 18.Re1 f6 19.c3 Kf7 20.f3 g5 21.Bd2 h5 22.Kf2 h4 23.Be2 Bd5 24.a3 Rg8 25.Bd1 Be6 26.Bc2 Ne7 27.b4 Rc8* 0-1 Paravyan,D (2586)-Lazavik,D (2541) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (7) *)* 13...Qxf6 14.f3 Bb7 15.Qf2 Re8 16.d4 h6 17.Bd2 Nf5 18.c3 Nh4 19.Bd3 Ng6 20.Re1 Rxe1+ 21.Qxe1 Qe6 22.Qxe6 dxe6 23.c4 Kf8 24.Kf2 Ke8 25.Bc2 Ne7 ½-½ Aronian,L (2767)-Carlsen,M (2842) 6th Sinquefield Cup 2018 Saint Louis USA (3.1)]

11...Nxe8 12.Nd5 Bg5N

[12...Bh4 13.c4 c6 14.Nc3 Nc7 15.d4 d5 16.Qb3 b6 17.Be3 Be6 18.Rd1 Bf6 19.Be2 Qd7 20.h3 Rd8 21.Qa4 dxc4 22.Qxa7 b5 23.a4 Be7 24.axb5 cxb5 25.Bf3 Bf5 26.Re1 Kf8 27.Rc1 ½-½ Ktulu-Deep Fritz SCCT (3m+2s(Champions Antalya 2021 (1.12)]

13.c4 c6 14.Nc3 Nc7 15.d4 d5 16.Qb3 b6 17.Qa4

(Diagram)



Strongly threatening Bc1xg5. **17...Bb7 18.Bxg5 Qxg5 19.cxd5 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Qxd5 21.Re1 Qd6** Inhibits Re1-e7. **22.g3 c5 23.dxc5 Qxc5 24.b4 Bc6 25.bxc5 Bxa4±** Endgame. KRB-KRB **26.Re7 bxc5 27.Rc7 Kf8 28.Bc4 Be8 29.Rxc5 Rd8 30.Bb3** Repels Rd8-d1+ **30...f6 31.Rc7 Rd7 32.Rc8 Re7 33.Ra8 g5 34.Ba4 Kf7 35.Bxe8+ Rxe8 36.Rxa7+±** KR-KR **36...Kg6 37.Kg2 h5 38.h3** 0.36/23

[Better is 38.a4± 0.72/21]

38...Rc8 39.a4 h4 1.33/30

[39...Rc2± 0.43/23]

40.g4 White is more active. **40...Rc3 41.a5 Ra3 42.a6 Kh6 43.Ra8 Kh7 44.f3** 0.01/33

[44.a7!± 0.58/27]

44...Kg7 45.Kf2 Kh7 46.Ke2 Kg7 47.Kf2 Kh7 48.Ke1 0.01/23

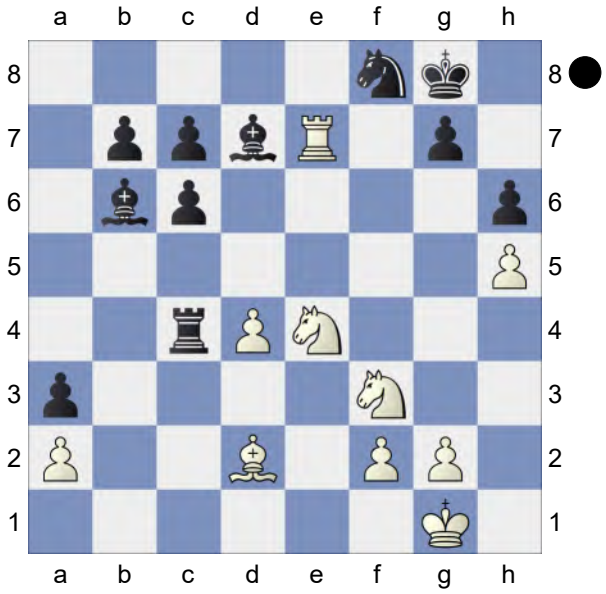
[48.a7!± 0.44/27]

48...Rxf3= 49.a7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

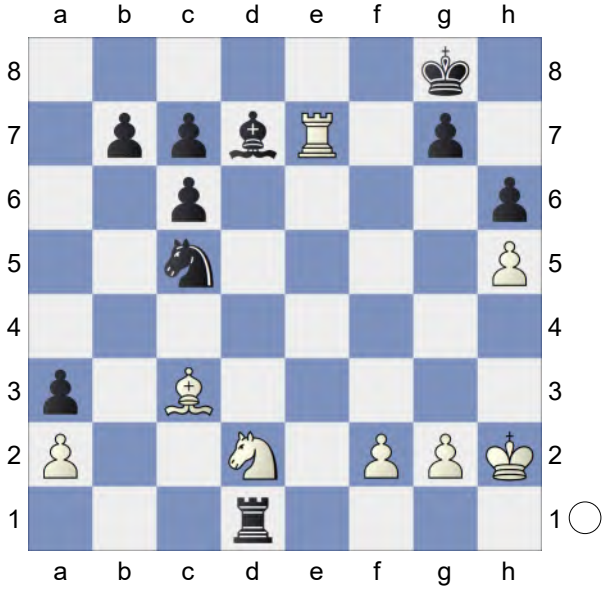
½-½

90 **C65**
□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2712**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2739**
Chennai-A (2) 06.11.2024
[TA]

1.e4 2 **e5** 52 **2.Nf3** 7 **Nc6** 18 **3.Bb5** 17 **Nf6** 42 **4.d3** 11 **Bc5** 27 **5.Bxc6** 9 **dxc6** 11 **6.0-0** 24
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 41 **7.c3** 4:18 **h6** 49 **8.Re1!?** 3:51 The position is equal. Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **8...0-0** 1:14 **9.Nbd2** 2:33 **Re8** 3:35 **10.Nf1N** 3:35
[10.h3 a5 11.Nc4 a4 12.d4 exd4 13.cxd4 Bf8 14.Bf4 b5 15.Nce5 c5 16.Nxd7 Qxd7 17.dxc5 Bxc5 18.Qxd7 Bxd7 ½-½ Roberts,A (2357)-Shapiro,V (2361) Champion's League 2019/B1 email [4]]
10...a5 9:57 **11.Ng3** 4:54 **a4** 1:29 **12.h3** 2:12 **Nf8** 15:54 **13.Qc2** 15:29 **Qf6** 3:55 **14.Qe2** 15:23 **Ng6** 10:47 **15.Nh5** 4:17 **Qd6** 24 **16.Bd2** 4:24 **Bb6** 8:09 **17.d4** 12:37 **exd4** 2:04 **18.cxd4** 15 **f5** 55
[18...Bxd4? 19.Nxd4 Qxd4 20.Bc3+-]
19.Ng3 5:34 **Bd7** 10:31 **20.Qc4+** 8:27 **Be6** 14 **21.Qc2** 2:09 **fxe4** 1:29 **22.Rxe4** 2:28 **Bd7** 11:01 **23.Rae1** 1:12 **Rxe4** 1:43 **24.Rxe4** 1:49 **a3** 4:02 **25.b3** 1:07
[25.bxa3 keeps more tension. Rxa3 26.Qb2 Rxf3 27.gxf3 Bxh3 28.a4]
25...Qf6 3:47
[25...Rf8=]
26.Qc4+ 2:00 **Qf7** 56 **27.h4** 1:39 **Qxc4** 53 **28.bxc4** 4 **Ra4** 56 **29.h5!** 2:13 **Nf8** 2 **30.Re7** 1:04
[30.c5 Ba5 31.Bxa5 Rxa5∓]
[30.Ne5!=]
30...Rxc4∓ 1:02 **31.Ne4** 42
[31.Be3∓ keeps fighting. Be6 32.Ne4]



31...Bxd4? 6:24
[31...Bf5!-+ Hoping for ...Nd7! 32.g4 Bxe4 *(32...Bxg4 33.Ne5±)* 33.Rxe4 c5 *(33...Rc2 34.Bb4∓)*]
32.Nxd4= 30 **Rxd4** 6 **33.Bc3** 17 **Rd1+** 9 **34.Kh2** 4 **Ne6=** 5 ...Kf8 would now be deadly. **35.Nd2!** 27 **Nc5** 1:03

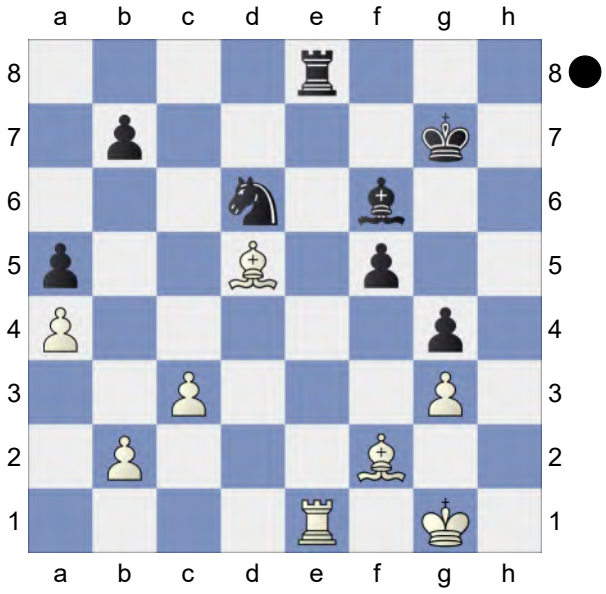


aiming for ...Kf8. **36.Rxg7+** 14 **Kf8** 0 Strongly threatening ...Rxd2! **37.Rg3** 57 **Ne6** 1:38 Prevents Bg7+
[37...Ke8=]

38.Rg6± 39 **c5** 33
[38...Nd4!±]
39.Rxh6± 24 **Nd4** 28 **40.Ne4** 34 Rf6+ is the strong threat. **40...b6?** 19 A mistake that costs the game.
[40...Bf5± 41.Bxd4 *(41.Nxc5 Kg7=)* 41...Rxd4 42.Rf6+ *(42.Nxc5? perishes. Kg7-+)* 42...Kg7 43.Rxf5 *(43.Nxc5? Kxf6 44.h6 Rh4+ 45.Kg3 Rc4-+)* 43...Rxe4]
41.Rf6++- 30:12 **Kg8** 30:42 **42.Rg6+** 9 **Kh8** 33 **43.Nf6** 14 White mates.
43...Be6 1 **44.h6** 5 **Bf7** 20 **45.Rg7** 12 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.35. Loses game: --- Black=1 Missed win: --- Black=1 Mistake: White=2 Black=3 Inaccurate: White=2 Black=2 OK: White=7 Black=12 Best: White=4 Black=7 Strong: White=2 ---
1-0

91 **C67**
☐ **MarsBot** **3038**
■ **ArasanX** **2990**
Blitz 25.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 5min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** The position is equal. **13.Qe3N**
[13.Nc3 Bxd4 14.Nd5 d6 15.Bg5 f6 16.Bh4 *(16.Be3 Bxb2 17.Rb1 c6 18.Bc4 Be5 19.Nc7+ d5 20.Nxa8 dxc4 21.Rd1 Qe7 22.Bxa7 Bg4 23.f3 Bf5 24.f4 Bd6 25.Nb6 Qxe1+ 26.Rxe1 Bc5+ 27.Kh1 Kf7 28.c3 Nc7* 6 Chapter-Games Game) 16...Bxb2 17.Rb1 Be5 18.f4 c6 19.fxe5 cxd5 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Bd3 Bd7 22.Qg3 Bc6 23.Bf5 Kh8 24.Qh3 Qe7 25.Bxh7 Muzychuk,M (2560)-Lagno,K (2559) Astana 2019 Chess Informant 141 [Tadic,Branko]]
[13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 Molina,R (2835)-5. dc5 ?c5 6.?f4_44689 (2693) Linares 2023 Inf87 [John Watson] 1-0 (51)]
13...d5 14.Nd2 Qe7 15.c3 Qxe3 16.fxe3 g5 17.Bg3 h5 18.e4 h4 19.Bf2 dxe4 20.Nxe4 Be7! 21.a4 a5 22.Be3 f6 23.Bc4+ Kg7 24.Nc5 Nd6 25.Bb3 f5 26.Re1 Bf6 27.g3 hxg3 28.hxg3 c6
[28...b6!? 29.Bd5 Rb8 30.Ne6+ Bxe6 31.Bxe6 Re8=]
29.Ne6+ Bxe6 30.Bxe6 Re8 31.Bf2! g4 32.d5 cxd5 33.Bxd5



Threatens to win with Rxe8. A strong pair of Bishops. **33...Rxe1+ 34.Bxe1=** Endgame KBB-KBN **34...Ne4 35.Bxb7 Nc5 36.Bc8** Strongly threatening b4.

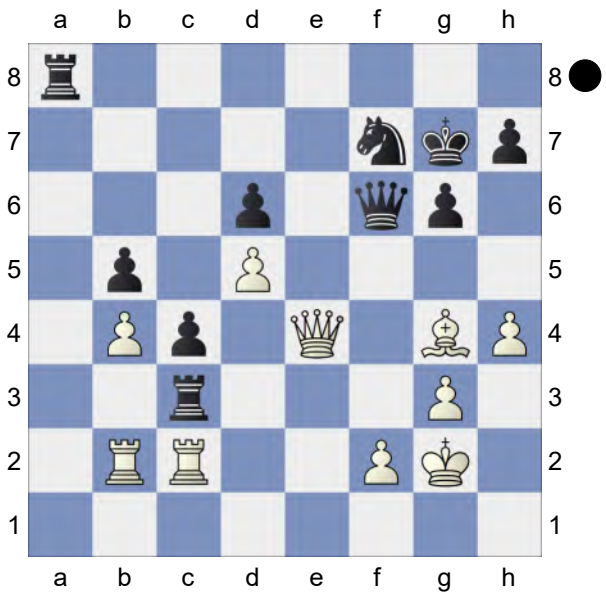
36...Nd3 37.Bxf5 Nxe1 38.Bxg4 -1.25/21
[38.Be4!= 0.00/23 remains equal.]
38...Nd3∓ 39.b4 axb4 -0.97/25
[Black should try 39...Bxc3 -1.34/24 40.bxa5 Bxa5]
40.cxb4 Nxb4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
0-1

92 **C79**
□ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2751**
■ **Giri,Anish** **2728**
London TechM GCL rapid (7.3) 08.10.24
[TA]

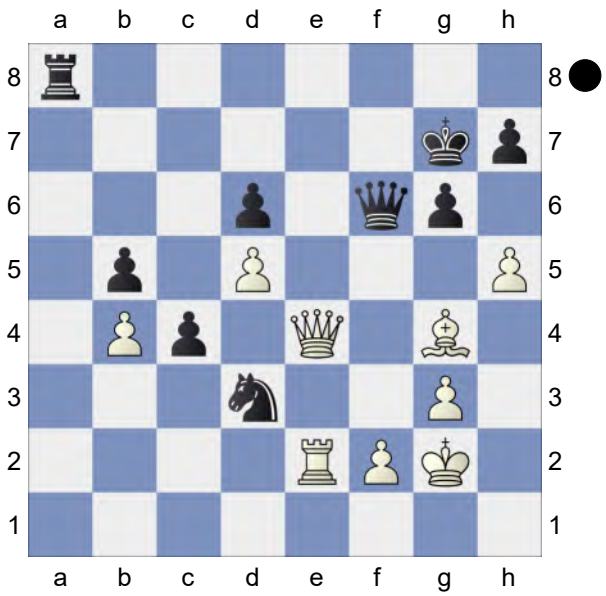
C79: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz-type lines with 3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 d6 Wedberg: 'Wedberg,T: 'With all it's faults this is still a nice game. Krasenkows attack once he gets the upper hand is instructive.'With all it's faults this is still a nice game. Krasenkows attack once he gets the upper hand is instructive.'Wedberg: 'Wedberg,T: 'With all it's faults this is still a nice game. Krasenkows attack once he gets the upper hand is instructive.'' Wedberg: 'Wedberg,Tom: 'With all it's faults this is still a nice game. Krasenkows attack once he gets the upper hand is instructive.''' ' '' With all it's faults this is still a nice game. Krasenkows attack once he gets the upper hand is instructive. Wedberg,T: 'Wedberg,Tom: 'With all it's faults this is still a nice game. Krasenkows attack once he gets the upper hand is instructive.'' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Bd7 6.c3 a6N**
[6...g6 7.Re1 Bg7 8.d4 *(8.Ba4 0-0 9.Nbd2 Nh5 10.Nf1 Kh8 11.h3 Qe8 12.Bc2 f5 13.d4 fxe4 14.Bxe4 Nf4 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 dxe5 17.Qb3 Bc6 18.Bxf4 Rxf4 19.Ng3 Bf8 20.Re2 Bb5 21.c4 Ba6 22.Qc3 Bc5* Zhang,Z (2632)-Krasenkow,M (2573) Shanghai 2001 CBM 085 [Wedberg, Tom] 0-1 (45)) 8...0-0 9.Bg5 Qe8 10.Bxf6 Bxf6 11.d5 Nb8 12.Bxd7 Nxd7 13.c4 a5 14.Nc3 Nc5 15.b3 Qd7 16.Qc2 Bg7 17.a3 f5 18.b4 fxe4 19.Nd2 Nd3 20.Rf1 axb4 21.Ncxe4 8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10.g4_ (2585)-Booy,J (2615) Salou ESP 2018 CBM 85 ext [Nickel]]
[6...Be7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Re1 Re8 9.Nf1 Bf8 10.Ba4 h6 11.Ng3 Ne7 12.Bb3 Ng6 13.d4 c5 14.dxc5 dxc5 15.a4 a6 16.Bg5 Be6 17.Bxe6 fxe6 18.Be3 Qxd1 19.Rexd1 Red8 20.a5 Be7 21.h3 Akopian,V (2713)-Radjabov,T (2742) Hersonissos 101/ (115) 2007 CI1-130 [RR]]
[6...Na5 7.Bxd7+ Qxd7 8.Re1 c5 9.d4 Nc6 C 65/01]
7.Ba4 g6 8.Re1 Bg7 9.d4 0-0 10.h3 b5!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
11.Bc2 Re8 White is slightly better.
12.Nbd2 Na5 13.b3N
[13.b4 Nb7 0.58/24 *(13...Nc6=* 0.25/25 *)* 14.Bb2 a5 15.a3 Nh5 16.Bd3 exd4 17.cxd4 c5 18.bxc5 dxc5 1.01/19 *(18...Nf4±* 0.34/22 *19.Bf1 Nxc5)* 19.e5 ½-½ Alekseev,E (2682)-Safarli,E (2620) Baku op 2012 (7)]
13...c5 14.d5 Bh6 15.b4 -0.08/26
[15.Kh2± 0.46/21]
15...Nb7!= 16.Nf1 Bxc1 17.Qxc1 a5 18.a3 Qc7 aiming for ...axb4. **19.Bd3 Rec8 20.Qd2**
[20.Ng3 with more complications. Kg7

21.Qe3 Qb6 22.Reb1]
20...Nd8 0.62/21
[20...Kg7= -0.14/21]
21.Rec1 -0.09/24
[White should try 21.bxc5!± 0.62/21 Qxc5 22.Rec1 *(22.Qg5 Kg7∓)*]
21...c4 22.Bc2 Nh5 23.Kh2 f6 24.g3 -0.36/22
[24.Ne3= 0.00/23]
24...Nf7∓ 25.Ne3 Ra7 0.14/26
[25...Ng5∓ -0.49/21 26.Nxg5 fxg5]
26.Bd1 -0.25/25
[26.a4 0.14/26 might be stronger.]
26...Rca8 0.32/23
[26...axb4= -0.25/25 27.axb4 Rca8]
27.Rab1? -1.33/19
[27.a4!± 0.32/23 keeps the upper hand.]
27...axb4∓ 28.axb4 Ng7 29.h4 Ra2 30.Rc2 R2a3 31.Ne1 Qd8 32.Rbb2 f5 33.exf5 Nxf5 34.N1g2 Nxe3 &Nero is more active. **35.Nxe3 Qf6 36.Ng4 Bxg4 37.Bxg4 Kg7 38.Qe3** -1.84/19
[38.Be6∓ -0.94/26 was worth a try.]
38...e4!-+ 39.Qxe4 Rxc3 -1.13/22
[⌓39...Ne5 -1.49/20 Strongly threatening ...Nd3. 40.Qd4 Nd3 41.Qxf6+ Kxf6]
40.Kg2? -2.81/21
[40.Be6∓ -1.13/22]

(Diagram)



White does not recover from this.
40...Rxc2! 41.Rxc2 Ne5 -1.48/24 Against Bd7
[Better is 41...Qe5-+ -2.52/20 42.Bf3 Qxe4 43.Bxe4 Ra3]
42.h5 -2.37/20
[42.Be6∓ -1.48/24 might work better.]
42...Nd3 Threatens to win with ...Qe5.
43.Re2 -3.29/21
[43.Bd7 -2.10/22 keeps fighting. Rb8 44.hxg6]



43...Qe5!

[Stronger than 43...Nxb4 44.Qb1 Nd3 45.Qxb5=]

44.Qf3 Ne1+ 45.Rxe1 Qxe1 Endgame KQR-KQB **46.h6+** -5.33/20

[46.Qf4 -3.11/21 Rf8 47.h6+ Kg8 48.Qd4 *(48.Be6+? Qxe6 49.Qd4 Qe5-+)*]

46...Kxh6 Black is clearly winning.

47.Qf4+ Kg7 48.Qxd6 Rf8

[Inferior is 48...Ra1 49.Qc7+ Kh8 50.Qc8+ Kg7 51.Qc7+ Kf8 52.Qf4+ Ke8 53.Qb8+ Ke7 54.Qc7+ Kf8 55.Qf4+ Kg7 56.Qc7+=]

49.Bf3 Qc3 50.Be4 Qd4 Against Qb6 **51.f3 c3 52.Qc5** -6.97/22

[⌓52.Kh3 -4.80/21 Rf7 53.Qe6]

52...Qxc5 53.bxc5 b4 54.Bc2 Kf6 55.d6 Ke5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.12 (very precise)

0-1

93 **C65**

□ **Topalov,Veselin** **2727**

■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2726**

London WR Masters (1.1) 14.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 a5!?** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **8.h3** The position is equal. **8...dxe4 9.dxe4 Qe7 10.a4 Na7N** A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.

[10...Rd8 11.Qc2 Nb8 12.Re1

A) 12...Nbd7 13.Bf1 *(13.Nh4 g6 14.Nb3 Bb6 15.Bg5 Nf8 16.Nf3 Ne6 17.Bh6 c6 18.Bc4 Bc7 19.Nc1 Ne8 20.Nd3 f6 21.Rad1 Kh8 22.Ba2 N6g7 23.Nd2 Be6 24.Bxe6 Nxe6 25.Be3 Nd6 26.b4 Kg7 27.bxa5 Rxa5* Bruzon Batista, L (2617)-Roussel Roozmon,T (2462) Montreal 2023 1-0 (48)*)* 13...b6 14.Nc4 Ba6 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bh4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Nf8 18.Bg3 Ng6 19.Nh4 Nxh4 20.Bxh4 Rd7 ½-½ (20) Almasi,Z (2695)-Jakovenko,D (2747) Germany 2015 CBM 176 [Postny,Evgeny];

B) 12...h6 13.Bf1 Nbd7 14.Nc4 b6 15.Be3 Bb7 16.Bxc5 Qxc5 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2768)-So,W (2771) Chess.com Rapid CGC KO 2022 (5.1)]

[10...Ne8 11.Re1 Nd6 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Nf1 f6 14.Be3 Bxe3 15.Nxe3 Qf7 16.Qe2 Rfd8 17.Red1 Ne7 18.h4 Nec8 19.Bc2 Nb6 20.Nd2 Nbc4 21.Ndxc4 Nxc4 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.exd5 Nd6 24.c4 b6 25.Ra3 Das,A (2816)-C 06/30 (2764) Belgrad 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Kozlov] 0-1 (36) f5 26.Rc3 e4 27.c5 bxc5 28.Rxc5 Re8 29.Rc1 Re7 30.Bd1 f4 31.Qe1 f3 32.R1c3 Rf8 33.Qf1 Qg6 34.Kh2 Qg4 35.Rxc7 Qxh4+ 36.Kg1 Re5 0-1 (36) Caruana, F (2816)-Aronian,L (2764) Leuven BEL 2018 [Mikhalevski,Victor]]

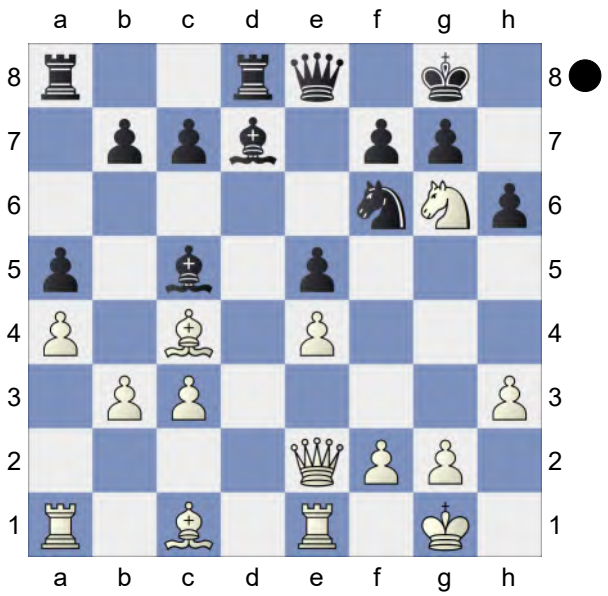
11.Bc4 Bd7 12.Qc2 Bc6 13.Re1 Nc8 14.Bd3 -0.06/27

[14.Bd5 0.30/23 might be stronger.]

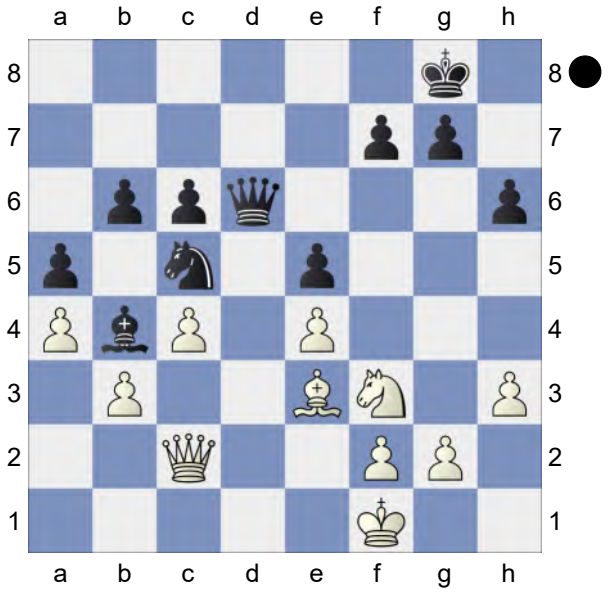
14...Nb6= 15.b3 Rfd8 16.Nc4 Nxc4 17.Bxc4 h6 18.Nh4 Bd7 19.Ng6 Qe8 20.Qe2 -0.93/21

[20.Be3∓ -0.35/22 Bxe3 21.Rxe3]

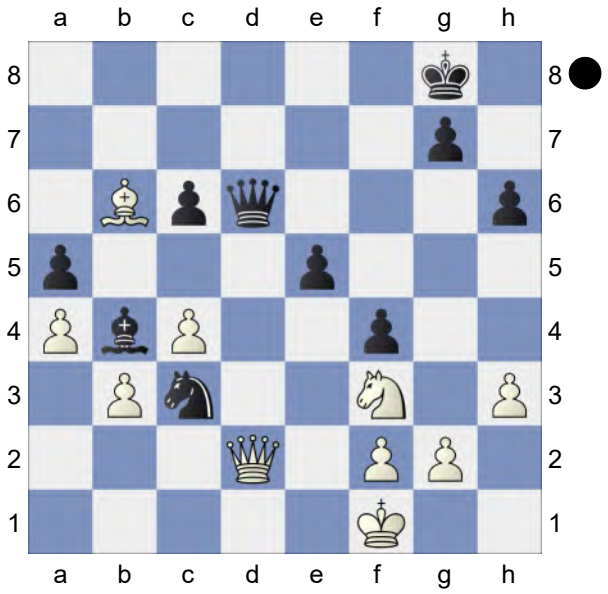
(Diagram)



20...c6!∓ 21.Nh4 Be6 -0.16/28
[Better is 21...b5∓ -0.81/24 22.axb5 cxb5]
22.Nf3= Nd7 23.Rb1 Bxc4 24.Qxc4 Qe7 25.Bd2 Nb6 26.Qe2 Rd7 27.Red1 Rad8 28.c4 Bb4! Inhibits Bc3. **29.Be3 Rxd1+ 30.Rxd1 Rxd1+ 31.Qxd1 Nd7 32.Kf1 b6 33.Bc1 Nc5 34.Qc2! Qd6 35.Be3**



Nxe4! 36.Bxb6 f5 Strongly threatening ...c5. **37.Be3 f4 38.Bb6**
[Don't go for 38.Bxf4? Qg6 39.Kg1 exf4-+]
38...Nc3↑ White must now prevent ...e4. Black fights for an advantage. **39.Qd2?** -4.16/24
[39.g4= 0.00/26 and White has nothing to worry.]



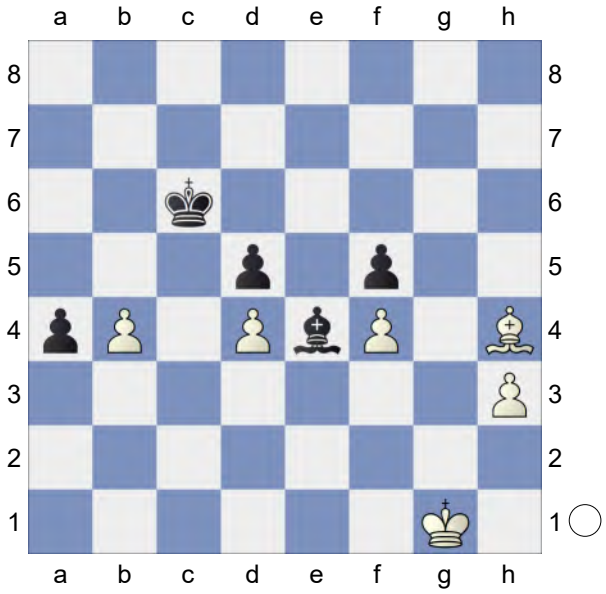
39...Nd5!-+ 40.c5
[40.Qe2 Nxb6]
40...Qg6 41.Qd1 e4 42.Qc2 Qf6 (→ ...Qa1+) **43.Qxe4** -7.89/28
[⌓43.Qe2 -4.98/24]
43...Qa1+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/Black=0.06 (flawless)
0-1

94 **C67**
□ **PetersBot** **2989**
■ **bird_xx** **3048**
Blitz 08.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Game 2 - The First Official Match *** The World Chess Championship 1886 was the first official World Chess Championship match contested by Wilhelm Steinitz and

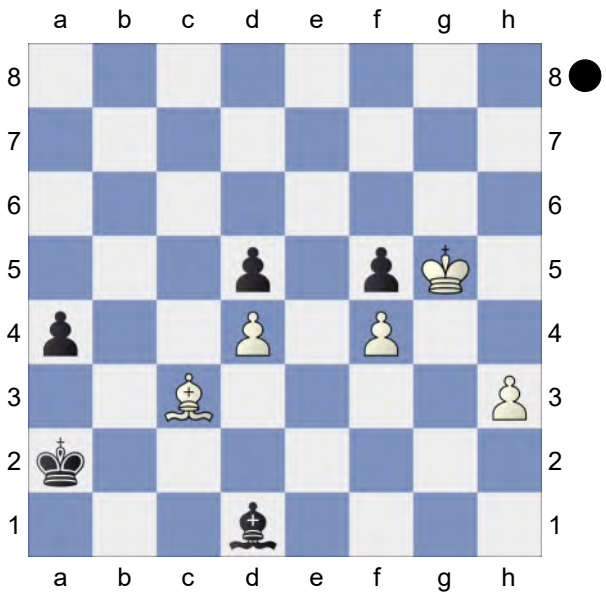
Johannes Zukertort. The match took place in the United States, the first five games being played in New York City, the next four being played in Saint Louis and the final eleven in New Orleans. The winner was the first player to achieve ten wins. Wilhelm Steinitz won the match 10 : 5, winning his tenth game in the twentieth game of the match. There were five draws. Previously, there were a number of "unofficial" world championship matches held between the undisputed leading players of the day, but talk of an official World Championship did not occur prior to the 1866 match between Steinitz and Adolf Anderssen. Steinitz won that match (+8 -6 =0) and although he made no known reference to a "World Championship" at the time, in later life he would sometimes backdate the tenure of his reign to the date of the Anderssen match. However, most historians now accept that the 1886 match between Steinitz and Zukertort was the first official World Championship match. Zukertort staked his rival claim to being the world's leading player by a number of tournament wins, notably Paris 1878 and London 1883. The following year (1884) saw the death of Paul Morphy and so finally, nothing stood in the way of a first official World Championship match between the two rivals. As there was a degree of hostility between them, the match arrangements were somewhat protracted and lasted almost three years. Disagreement over the choice of venue was resolved when Steinitz finally persuaded Zukertort to accept the United States, his new place of residence, over London. This was mostly due to the better conditions offered to the players by the American organizers. Zukertort was given the princely sum of $750 to make the trip across the Atlantic, and the winner of the match was promised a quarter of the proceeds from the betting syndication. The time limit was determined as 30 moves in 2 hours, followed by another 15 moves in each subsequent hour. For the first time in chess history, a demonstration board measuring approximately 1 metre square was erected above the players, so that the spectators could follow the game while seated. Play commenced on January 11, 1886 at 14.00 hours, in the Cartiers Academy Hall, No. 80, Fifth Avenue, New York City. After four wins of one player, which happened after the first five games, the venue switched to Saint Louis for a further four. With the match result still in the balance (4 : 4, with one draw), the concluding chapter was played in New Orleans, by which time Zukertort was said to be living on his wits, physically fatigued and approaching mental breakdown. Steinitz, on the other hand, appeared to be playing more robustly, with a bottomless pit of mental stamina. His strategic mastery quickly took control of the match and he wrapped things up with a further six wins, four draws and just one defeat. The final game ended on March 29, 1886 when Zukertort tended his resignation and congratulated the new World Champion. In the aftermath, it was apparent that Zukertort's play had been overly impulsive; he had regularly taken half the time of Steinitz and it is likely that this was connected to a heart condition he had carried since childhood. In actual fact, two years later Zukertort died of a

heart attack. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Nc3 0-0 9.Bf1N**
[9.Bd3 Bf6 *(9...c6 10.b3 Ne8 11.Qf3 d5 12.Bb2 Bf6 13.Re2 Nc7 14.Na4 Bxb2 15.Nxb2 Qd6 16.Rae1 Bd7 17.Bf5 Rae8 18.Bxd7* ½-½ (18) Shirov,A (2746)-Hracek,Z (2612) Germany 2001 CABW [Black e4 - Berlin 7]*)* 10.Re3 g6 11.b3 Re8 12.Qf3 Bg5 13.Rxe8+ Nxe8 14.Bb2 c6 15.Ne4 Be7 16.Qe3 d5 17.Qd4 f6 18.Ng3 Be6 19.Re1 Ng7 20.h4 Qd7 21.h5 Bf7 22.hxg6 Bxg6 23.Qe3 Kf7 Steinitz,W-Zukertort,J Wch 1 USA (m/6) 1886 Chess Informant 149 [Petrov,Marian] 1-0 (61) 24.Qf4 Re8 25.Re3 Ne6 26.Qg4 Nf8 27.Nf5 Bc5 28.Nh6+ Kg7 29.Bxg6 Qxg4 30.Nxg4 Rxe3 31.fxe3 Kxg6 32.Nxf6 Bb4 33.d3 Ne6 34.Kf2 8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10.g4_-Baynes,D Bognor 2008 Inf 47 [Westera,Bert] (34) h5 35.g4 h4 36.Nh5 Bd6 37.Kg2 c5 38.Bf6 Ng5 39.Bxg5 Kxg5 40.Kh3 Be5 41.Nf4 d4 42.Ne6+ Kf6 43.exd4 cxd4 44.Nc5 Kg5 45.Nxb7 Kf4 46.Na5 Bf6 47.Nc6 Ke3 48.Nxa7 Kd2 49.Nc6 Steinitz,W-Zukertort,J Wch01-USA 2 (St.Louis) 1886 1-0 (61) Kxc2 50.a4 Kxd3 51.Nb4+ Ke2 52.a5 Be7 53.Nd5 Kf3 54.Nxe7 d3 55.Nd5 1-0 (61) Voboril,P-Noteboom A Main Line Bandar e Anzali 1886 CBM 03 [La Stratégie 1884 pp167-8_14121]]
9...Bf6 White has an edge. **10.Re1 Re8 11.Nd5 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 b6 13.Nxf6+ Qxf6 14.d3 Bb7 15.Qb4 c5 16.Qf4 Nf5 17.c3 h6 18.Bd2 Re8 19.Re1 Rxe1 20.Bxe1 Bc6 21.f3 d6 22.Bf2 g5 23.Qc4 Qe6 24.Qxe6 fxe6=** Endgame KBB-KBN **25.d4 cxd4 26.cxd4 h5 27.Be2 h4 28.Bd3 Kf7 29.f4 Kf6 30.Bxf5 exf5** KB-KB **31.a3 Be4** The position is equal. **32.Be1 Kg6 33.h3 a5**
[Resist 33...gxf4 34.Bxh4 f3 35.g3±]
34.Kh2 d5
[Don't play 34...gxf4 35.Bxh4 Kh5 36.Bd8±]
35.g3 gxf4! 36.gxf4 Kh5 37.b4 a4 38.b5 Bd3 39.Bb4 Bxb5 40.Kg2 Bd3 41.Be7 b5 42.Kf2 Kg6 43.Bb4 Bc4 44.Bd2 Bd3 45.Bb4 Be4 46.Bc3 Kf7 47.Be1 Ke6 48.Kg1 Kd7 49.Bxh4 b4 50.axb4 Kc6



White must now prevent ...Kb5. **51.Be1! Kb5** Threatens to win with ...Kc4. **52.Bc3 Kc4 53.Ba1 Bf3 54.Kf2 Bd1 55.Kg3 Kxb4 56.Kh4 Ka3 57.Kg5 Ka2 58.Bc3 Kb3** Against Bb4 **59.Ba1 Ka2 60.Bc3**

(Diagram)



And now Bb4 would win. **60...Kb3** Inhibits Bb4. **61.Ba1 Ka3**
[61...Ka2!? 62.Bc3=]
62.Kf6 Ka2 63.Bc3 Kb3 Inhibits Bb4. **64.Ba1 Ka2 65.Bc3 Kb3** Prevents Bb4. **66.Ba1 Ka3**
[66...Ka2!? 67.Bc3=]
67.Kxf5 Ka2 68.Bc3 Bb4 is the strong threat. **68...Kb3** Against Bb4 **69.Ba1 Ka2 70.Bc3** Hoping for Bb4. **70...Kb3** Against Bb4 **71.Ba1 Ka2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) / Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

95 **C67**
□ **RaspFish** **3043**
■ **YoBot_v2** **3049**
Rapid 07.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 When I started playing chess in the mid 1970s, India's main distinction was that it's only IM (!) Manuel Aaron was at that time the first entry in most chess encyclopaedias. Almost five decades later the subcontinent is a huge chess superpower and if you were to credit a single person, who most significantly contributed to this development, it would certainly be Vishy Anand. Five years my junior, we first met at the World U20 Championship in 1984. If I remember correctly, we both lost in the last round and I was certainly not pleased with my final score 8/13, the worst result in my 3 World Juniors. Looking at it nowadays, it was the only time I ever came ahead of Vishy, even if by a meagre half-point. Anand become World Junior Champion (1987), India's first GM (1988) and qualified for the Candidates (1990), all well before I even earned my GM title. And that was certainly not the end, he went on to become multiple World Champion in all conceivable formats and time-controls. In my opinion, one of the main reasons he rose to the very top was that his indisputable talent was multi-faceted. The following game illustrates his strategical and technical prowess, in the Berlin endgame he produces a text-book example of converting White's kingside majority. I have already annotated his fight with Ponomariov earlier, even including in the second edition of my book "Instructive Modern Chess Masterpieces". I will again stress the emphasis on the first adjective "instructive" and try to put my earlier notes in perspective - after all the Berlin is here to stay, Vishy himself employed it with both colours and 20 years later it's as popular as ever, if not more so... Als ich Mitte der 1970er Jahre mit dem Schachspiel begann, zeichnete sich Indien vor allem dadurch aus, dass der

einzige indische IM (!) Manuel Aaron damals der erste Eintrag in den meisten Schachenzyklopädien war. Fast fünf Jahrzehnte später ist der Subkontinent eine riesige Schach-Supermacht, und wenn man eine einzelne Person nennen sollte, die am meisten zu dieser Entwicklung beigetragen hat, dann wäre es sicherlich Vishy Anand. Fünf Jahre jünger als ich, trafen wir uns zum ersten Mal bei der U20-Weltmeisterschaft im Jahr 1984. Wenn ich mich richtig erinnere, haben wir beide in der letzten Runde verloren, und ich war mit meinem Endergebnis von 8/13, dem schlechtesten Ergebnis bei meinen drei Weltmeisterschaften, sicher nicht zufrieden. Wenn ich es heute betrachte, war es das einzige Mal, dass ich vor Vishy lag, wenn auch nur um einen mageren halben Punkt. Anand wurde Juniorenweltmeister (1987), Indiens erster GM (1988) und qualifizierte sich für die Kandidatenturniere (1990), alles lange bevor ich meinen GM-Titel erlangte. Und das war noch lange nicht das Ende, denn er wurde anschließend mehrfacher Weltmeister in allen denkbaren Formaten und Zeitkontrollen. Meiner Meinung nach war einer der Hauptgründe für seinen Aufstieg an die Spitze, dass sein unbestreitbares Talent sehr vielseitig war. Die folgende Partie illustriert sein strategisches und technisches Können, im Berliner Endspiel liefert er ein Lehrbuchbeispiel für die Umwandlung der weißen Königsflügelmehrheit. Ich habe seinen Kampf mit Ponomariov bereits früher kommentiert, sogar in der zweiten Ausgabe meines Buches "Instructive Modern Chess Masterpieces". Ich möchte noch einmal die Betonung auf das erste Adjektiv "lehrreich" legen und versuchen, meine früheren Notizen in die richtige Perspektive zu rücken - schließlich ist die Berliner Variante sehr beliebt, Vishy selbst hat sie mit beiden Farben gespielt und 20 Jahre später ist sie so beliebt wie eh und je, wenn nicht sogar noch beliebter... When I started playing chess in the mid 1970s, India's main distinction was that it's only IM (!) Manuel Aaron was at that time the first entry in most chess encyclopaedias. Almost five decades later the subcontinent is a huge chess superpower and if you were to credit a single person, who most significantly contributed to this development, it would certainly be Vishy Anand. Five years my junior, we first met at the World U20 Championship in 1984. If I remember correctly, we both lost in the last round and I was certainly not pleased with my final score 8/13, the worst result in my 3 World Juniors. Looking at it nowadays, it was the only time I ever came ahead of Vishy, even if by a meagre half-point. Anand become World Junior Champion (1987), India's first GM (1988) and qualified for the Candidates (1990), all well before I even earned my GM title. And that was certainly not the end, he went on to become multiple World Champion in all conceivable formats and time-controls. In my opinion, one of the main reasons he rose to the very top was that his indisputable talent was multi-faceted. The following game illustrates his strategical and technical prowess, in the Berlin endgame he produces a text-book example of converting White's kingside majority. I have already annotated his fight with Ponomariov earlier, even including in

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[12.g4 is more complex. Ne3 13.Rd2 Bf4 14.Ne2]

12...h6

[12...Ke7 13.Rd3 h6 14.Nf3 g6 15.Rad1 Ng7 16.h3 Be6 17.Nd4 Rad8 18.f4 Bc4 19.R3d2 c5 20.Nf3 Nh5 21.b3 Rxd2 22.Rxd2 Be6 23.Ne2 c4 24.Kf2 cxb3 25.cxb3 c5 26.g4 Ng7 27.Nc3 Anand,V (2753)-Ponomariov,R (2734) Linares 2003 CBM 094 [Stohl,Igor] 1-0 (64)]

13.Nf3N White is slightly better.

[13.Nge4 with more complications. b6 *(13...g5 14.Ne2 Ke7 15.Rd2 Be6 16.Rad1 Rad8 17.Rxd8 Rxd8 18.Rxd8 Kxd8 19.b3 Nh4 20.Nc5 Bc8 21.Nd4 Ng6 22.e6 fxe6 23.Ncxe6+ Ke7 24.Nc5 Kd6 25.Nd3 Ne5 26.Ne1 b5 27.c3 a5 28.f3*

Rapport,R (2754)-Vidit,S (2710) Mayrhofen 2022 0-1 (57)) 14.f4 Ke7 15.Rd2]

13...Be6 14.a4 a5 15.Rd2 Rd8

[15...g6 feels hotter. 16.Rad1 Ke7 17.h3 Rad8]

16.Rad1! Rxd2 17.Rxd2 g5 18.h3 Ne7 19.h4 gxh4 20.Nxh4 Ng6 21.Nxg6 fxg6= Endgame KRB-KRN **22.f4 Ke7 23.Kf2 g5 24.g3 h5 25.Ne4 gxf4 26.gxf4 h4 27.Kf3 h3 28.Kg3 Bf5 29.Nc3** -0.49/22

[29.Ng5= -0.01/24 is superior.]

29...Bg4 0.01/20 **30.Ne4**

[But not 30.Kxg4 h2 31.Rd1 h1Q 32.Rxh1 Rxh1∓]

[30.Kxg4 is interesting. h2 31.Rd1 h1Q 32.Rxh1 Rxh1 33.f5]

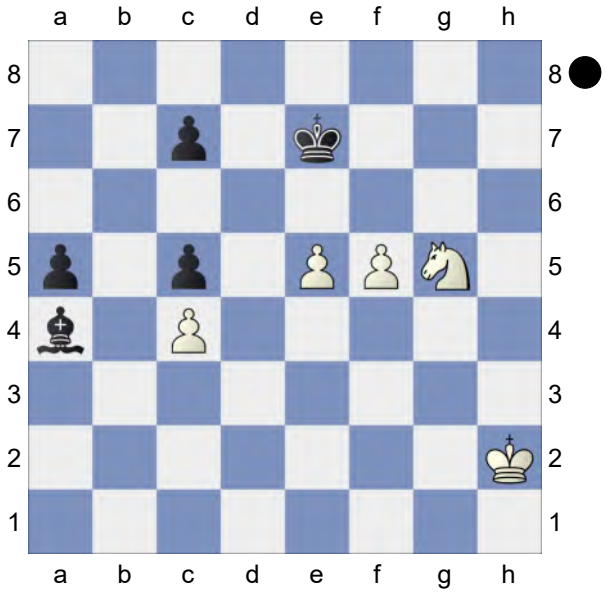
30...Bf5 31.Ng5 b5 32.Rh2 Rg8 33.Kf3 -0.74/23

[33.b3!= -0.01/21 remains equal.]

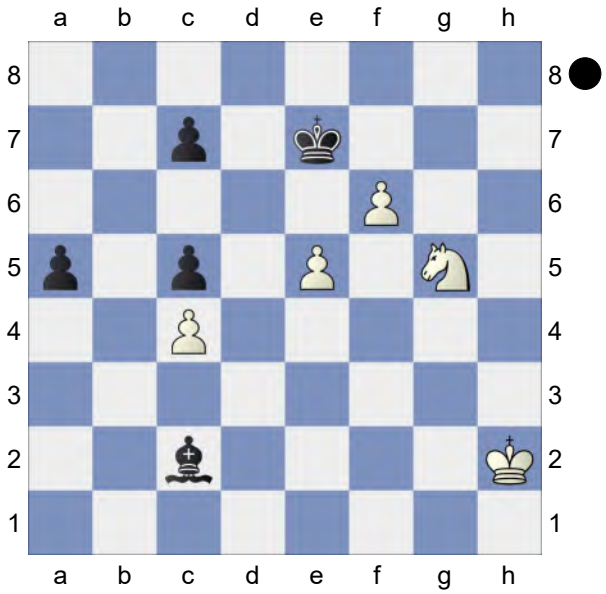
33...Rh8 -0.01/19

[33...bxa4∓ -0.74/23 ...Rb8 is the strong threat. 34.Nxh3 Rb8]

34.Kg3! b4 35.Nxh3 c5 36.c3 bxc3 37.bxc3 Bd7 38.c4 Rh5 39.Rh1 Rh6 40.Rh2 Rh8 41.Ng5 Rxh2 42.Kxh2 Bxa4∓ aiming for ...Bc2. KB-KN **43.f5**



Bc2! 44.f6+



Kd7! 45.e6+ Ke8 46.f7+ Ke7 47.Nf3 Bf5 48.Ne5 Threatens to win with Nd7. **48...Bxe6 49.Nc6+ Kxf7** Strongly threatening ...a4. **50.Nxa5 Bxc4** 0.57/27 **51.Nxc4** KN-KPP **51...c6** The position is equal. **52.Nd2 c4 53.Kh1 c3 54.Nb3 c2 55.Kh2 c1Q 56.Nxc1 c5 57.Kh1 c4 58.Kg2 c3 59.Na2 c2 60.Kg3 c1Q 61.Nxc1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)

½-½

96 **C65**

□ **Ivic,Velimir** **2620**

■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2803**

Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early b..

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 0-0 7.h3 Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.Re1 Ng6** The position is equal. **10.Nbd2 c6 11.Bf1**

[11.Bd3 Re8 12.Nf1 d5 13.Bg5 dxe4 14.Rxe4 Bf5 15.Re1 Bxd3

16.Qxd3 h6 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Ng3 Nf4 19.Qf5 Qxf5 20.Nxf5 exd4 21.N3xd4 Nd3 22.Rxe8+ Rxe8 Efimenko,Z (2657)-Ehlvest,J (2600) 108/(240) Moscow 2010]

11...Re8 12.Qc2

[12.a4 Be6 13.b4 a6 14.Bb2 h6 15.a5 Bc7 16.c4 exd4 17.Nxd4 c5 18.Nxe6 Rxe6 19.Bc3 Qe7 20.Qc2 Re8 21.b5 Nh5 22.b6 Bd8 23.g3 Qd7 24.Bg2 Ngf4 25.gxf4 Nxf4 26.Nf1 Rg6 1-0 Mamedov,E (2457)-Makarian,R (2547) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (6)]

12...h6 13.Nc4N

[13.b3 Bc7 14.Bb2 d5 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxe5 17.exd5 Nxd5 18.Nf3 Bf6 19.Rad1 Rxe1 20.Rxe1 Be6 21.Qd2 Qa5 22.Nd4 Rd8 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Qe2 Nf4 25.Qe4 Qg5 26.Kh1 e5 27.Bc1 Qh4 1-0 Nikolin,Z (2394)-Falkowski,D (2278) E0223 www.desc-online.de 1999 (1.1) 28.g3 Nd3 29.gxh4 Nxf2+ 30.Kg2 Nxe4 31.Rxe4 Rd1 32.Bc4+ Kh7 33.Be3 Ra1 34.a4 a6 35.Bc5 b5 36.axb5 axb5 37.Be6 Ra2+ 38.Kg3 Rc2 39.Re3 g5 40.hxg5 Bxg5 41.Bf5+ Kg7 42.Bxc2 1-0 Kiolbasa,O (2394)-Doluhanova,E (2278) Krakow Euro Pairs Blitz Qual (Women) 2023 (1.1)]

13...Bc7 14.dxe5 dxe5 15.a4 Be6 16.b4 a5 0.62/20

[16...Nh7= 0.10/18]

17.Nxa5 0.24/19

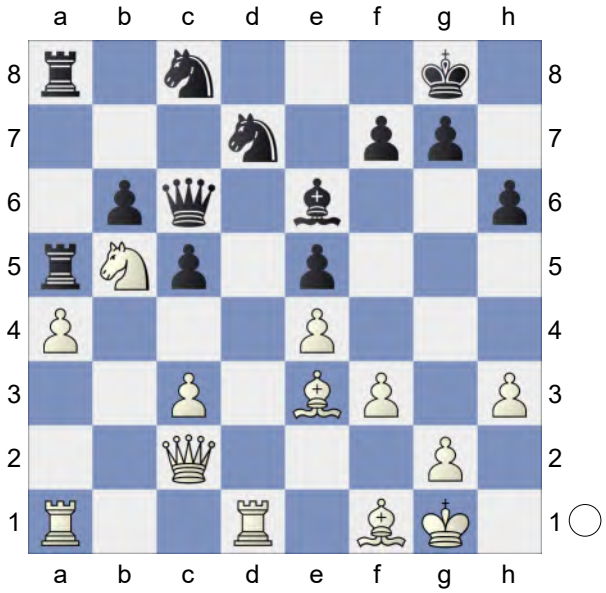
[17.bxa5± 0.62/20 Bb8 18.Rd1]

17...Bxa5= 18.bxa5 Qxa5 19.Be3 Qc7 20.Reb1 Nd7 21.Nd2 c5 22.Qb2 b6 23.Nc4 Reb8 24.Rd1 Ne7 25.Nd6 Nc8 0.86/20

[25...Rd8± 0.38/19]

26.Nb5± Qc6 27.f3 Ra5 28.Qc2 Rba8 1.28/20

[⌓28...Ne7 0.83/20]



29.c4 0.72/19

[⌓29.f4! 1.28/20 exf4 30.Bxf4]

29...Kh7 1.45/18

[⌓29...Ne7 0.72/19]

30.Rd2 0.76/20

[⌓30.f4 1.45/18 And now f4-f5 would win. f6 31.f5]

30...Nf6 1.16/17

[⌓30...Qb7 0.76/20]

31.f4 Ne7 Wards off Rd2-d5 **32.f5** 0.50/21

[32.fxe5 Nd7±]

[32.Rd5± 1.07/17]

32...Bd7± 33.Rd6 -0.01/20

[33.g4± 0.44/18]

33...Qb7= ...Bd7xb5! is the strong threat.

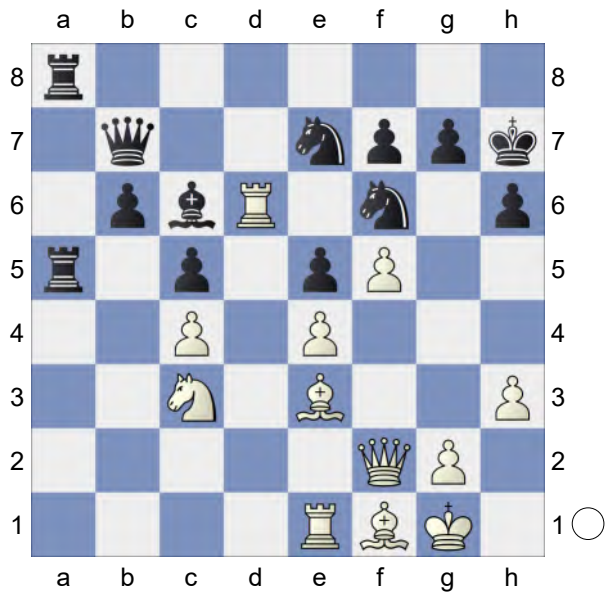
34.Nc3⇄ White is not keeping still

34...Bc6 35.Re1 -0.41/19

[35.Bf2= 0.03/18 deserves consideration.]

35...Bxa4∓ 36.Qf2 Bc6? 1.73/20

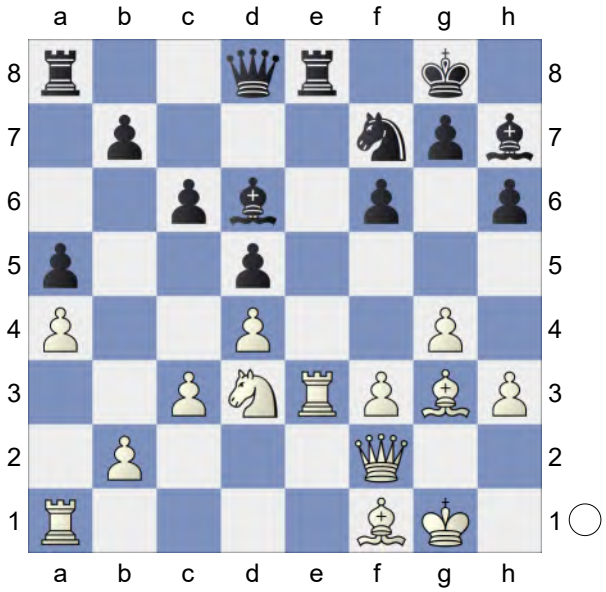
[36...Ne8!∓ -0.48/20 stays ahead. 37.Rd2 Bc6]



37.Rxf6? -0.91/22 **gxf6∓ 38.Qh4 Ng8 39.Rd1** -1.65/21
[39.Bc1∓ -1.00/20]
39...Ra3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.27 (precise)
0-1

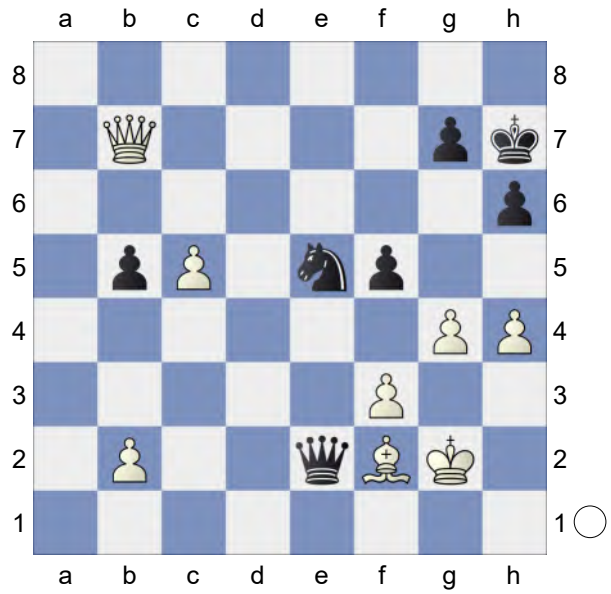
97 **C67**
□ **RaspFish** **3037**
■ **YoBot_v2** **3051**
Rapid 03.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min+1sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Nf5 11.c3 d5 12.Nd2**
[12.Bd3 c6 13.Nd2 Re8 14.Rxe8+ Qxe8 15.Nf3 Nh4 16.Nxh4 Bxh4 17.Bf4 Bf6 18.Qd2 Be6 19.Re1 Qd7 20.Bg5 Qd8 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Re5 h6 23.Qe3 Kf8 24.h3 b6 25.Bc2 Bd7 26.Qg3 Re8 Yugoslav Qa5 (2606)-Ahnert (2691) European Championship, Antalya 2018 Juniors [Dragan Solak] ½-½ (31)]
12...Nd6 13.a4N
[13.Qf3 c6 14.b3 Re8 15.Ba3 Be6 16.Bd3 Qd7 17.Qf4 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nf3 Ne7 20.Bxe7 Bxe7 21.Ne5 Bd6 22.Qf3 Qc7 23.Qf5 f6 24.Nf3 Qf7 25.Qd3 Rxe1+ 26.Rxe1 Re8 27.Rxe8+ Qxe8 Dhulipalla,B (2410)-Bozinovic,B (1954) Dimitrovgrad 2023 1-0 28.Qe3 Kf7 29.Kf1 Qe6 30.Ke2 ½-½ (30) Arlebrink,J (1937)-Lehmann,A (1631) Tilburg 2023 Inf55 [John Watson]]
[13.Nf3 Bg4 14.Bf4 c6 15.h3 Bxf3 16.Qxf3 Re8 17.Bd3 g6 18.Rad1 Bg5 19.Bg3 Rxe1+ 20.Rxe1 Qd7 21.Re2 Re8 22.h4 Rxe2 23.Qxe2 Be7 24.h5 Ne8 25.hxg6 hxg6 26.b3 Bd6 27.Bxd6 Nxd6 Yan,T (2232)-Ni,S (2343) Hohhot 2024 ½-½ (37)]
13...a5 14.Nf3 c6 15.h3 Bf5 16.Bf4 Be4 17.Ne5 Re8 18.f3 Bf5 19.Qd2 h6 20.g4 Bh7 21.Bg3 Be7 22.Qf2 f6 23.Nd3 Nf7 24.Re3 Bd6



Hoping for ...Rxe3. **25.Rxe8+ Qxe8 26.Re1 Qf8 27.Kg2 Re8 28.Nc5** 0.08/20
[28.Rxe8± 0.49/18 Qxe8 29.Qe2

Qxe2+ 30.Bxe2]
28...Bxc5 29.dxc5 Bg6 30.Rxe8 Qxe8 31.Qd4 0.01/20
[31.b4!± 0.40/18]
31...Bc2= 32.h4
[32.b4 looks sharper. axb4 33.Qxb4 Qe3 34.Bf4]
32...Bb3 33.c4 Bxa4 34.Qc3 Prevents Bb3. **34...dxc4 35.Bxc4 Bb5 36.Bxb5 cxb5 37.Qxa5 Qe2+ 38.Bf2 Ne5 39.Qa8+ Kh7 40.Qxb7 f5**



Inhibits Qe4. Threatens to win with ... Nd3. **41.Qd5**
[Don't blunder 41.gxf5? Nd3 42.f6 Qxf2+ 43.Kh3 Qf1+ 44.Kh2 Qe2+ 45.Kh3 Qe6+ 46.Kg2 Qxf6 47.Qe4+ Qg6+ 48.Qxg6+ Kxg6-+]
41...fxg4 42.fxg4 Qxg4+ 43.Bg3 Qe2+ 44.Bf2 Qxb2 45.Qe4+ Kg8 46.Qd5+ Kh7 47.Qe4+ Kg8 48.Qa8+ Kf7 49.c6 Ng6! Threatening ...Nxh4+. **50.c7** White threatens Qd5+ and mate. **50...Nxh4+ 51.Kh3 Qc3+! 52.Kxh4** Chess con chili. **52...Qxc7 53.Qd5+ Ke8?** 1.96/19
[53...Kf6= 0.09/21 and Black stays safe. 54.Bd4+ Kg6 55.Qe4+ Kf7]
54.Qg8+ 0.73/23
[54.Qxb5++- 1.96/19 has better winning chances. Qd7 55.Qc4]
54...Kd7± And now ...Qf4+ would win.
55.Qxg7+ Kc8 56.Qxc7+ 0.06/5
[56.Qg4+± 0.86/18 Kb7 57.Qg2+ Qc6 58.Qg7+ Qc7 59.Qf6 *(59.Qd4 Qc4=)*]
56...Kxc7 Endgame KB-KPP **57.Bg1 b4 58.Be3 b3 59.Bf4+ Kb6 60.Be5 b2** 1.17/35
[60...Kb5= 0.00/32]
61.Bxb2 h5 62.Bc1 Ka5 63.Kg5 h4 64.Be3 0.00/50
[White should play 64.Bf4± 1.21/41]
64...h3= aiming for ...h2. **65.Bf4 h2 66.Bxh2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
½-½

98 **C67**
□ **Yu,Yangyi** **2724**
■ **Murzin,Volodar** **2664**
Wch Blitz New York (9) 30.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Nc3** -0.19/19
[Better is 11.c3± 0.31/18]
11...b6!?N 0.60/21 Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[11...Rxe1= -0.19/19 12.Qxe1 Bxd4
A) 13.Bf4 Ne8 14.Nd5 d6 *(14...c6 15.Ne7+ Kf8 16.Nxc8 Qf6 17.Rd1 Rxc8 18.Qe4 Bc5 19.Rxd7 Rd8 20.Rxd8 Qxd8 21.c3 Qf6 22.Qe5 Qxe5 23.Bxe5 Nf6 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.g4 h6 26.Kg2 f5 27.gxf5 Bd6 28.h4 Bf4 29.Kf3* ½-½ Lu,M (2441)-Li,R

(2318) TCh-CHN Div A Finals 2024 (3.1)) 15.Bg5 f6 16.Bh4

A1) 16...Bxb2 17.Rb1 Be5 18.f4 *(18.Qe4 c6 19.f4 Be6 20.Bd3 f5 21.Qe1 Bd4+ 22.Kf1 Qd7 23.Rxb7 Qxb7 24.Qxe6+ Qf7 25.Ne7+ Kf8 26.Qxf7+ Kxf7 27.Nxc6 Bb6 28.Bc4+ Kg6 29.Ne7+ Kh5 30.Be2+ Kxh4 31.Nxf5#* 1-0 Sebag,M (2430)-Dardha,D (2610) Cap d'Agde Capechecs Qual 20th rapid 2022 (1.4)) 18...Bd4+ 19.Kh1 Kh8 20.Bd3 c6 21.Ne7 d5 22.Qe2 h6 23.Ng6+ Kg8 24.Rxb7 Nd6 25.Ne7+ Kf8 26.Ng6+ Kg8 27.Ne7+ Kf8 28.Nxc6 Qe8 29.Qxe8+ Nxe8 30.Rb5 Be3 31.Be1 1-0 Cornette,M (2581)-Urkedal,F (2519) EU-Cup 38th Durres 2023 (7.6);

A2) 16...Be5 17.f4 c6 18.fxe5 cxd5 19.exf6 Nxf6 20.Bd3 Bd7 21.Kh1 a5 22.Qg1 Qe7 23.Re1 Qf7 24.Rf1 Re8 25.Qb6 Bc6 26.Qxa5 Qe6 27.Bxf6 gxf6 1-0 Harikrishna,P (2716)-Melkumyan,H (2650) FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 (9);

B) 13.Nd5 b6 Ch. 11 - Berlin 4.O-O Nxe4 5.-Berlin 4.O-O Nxe4 5. Re1: 6.Nx]

12.Bf4N

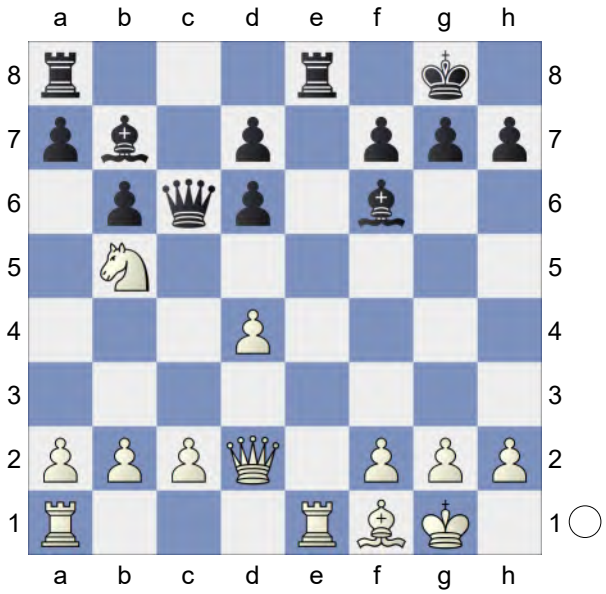
[12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Nd5 Bd8! 14.Bf4 Bb7 15.c4 Bxd5 16.cxd5 Qe4 17.g3 Qxd5 18.Bg2 ½-½ Edwards,K (1967)-Raessler,A (2285) W-Cup17 WS40 email 2009]

12...Bb7 White is slightly better.

13.Bxd6 cxd6 14.Qd2 Qc7 1.81/20

[14...Bc6± 0.76/19]

15.Nb5+- Qc6



16.Nxa7 Deflection, Back Rank

16...Rxe1

[16...Qa4 17.Rxe8+]

17.Rxe1

[Not 17.Nxc6 Rxa1 18.Nb4 Re8∓]

17...Qa4 18.Nb5 Bc6 19.Nxd6 0.68/21

[19.Nc7+- 2.07/20 Rf8 20.d5]

19...Qxd4± 20.Qxd4 Bxd4 This pair of bishops is nice. **21.c3 Bc5 22.Ne4** -0.01/21

[22.Re8+± 0.44/22 Rxe8 23.Nxe8]

22...Bxe4!= 23.Rxe4 White wants to play Bf1-c4. **23...Rxa2** Endgame KRB-KRB **24.b4** -0.83/21

[24.Re8+= 0.08/20 Bf8 25.b4]

24...Bxf2+∓ 25.Kh1 Kf8 Dodges Re4-e8+ **26.g3 Rc2 27.Bb5 Rxc3 28.Bxd7 g6 29.Kg2 Be3 30.Bb5 Rb3 31.Bc6 Rb2+ 32.Kf3** -1.23/22

[⌓32.Kh1 -0.72/21 Bg5 33.b5]

32...Bg1! Black is more active. **33.Re8+ Kg7 34.h4** -1.54/22

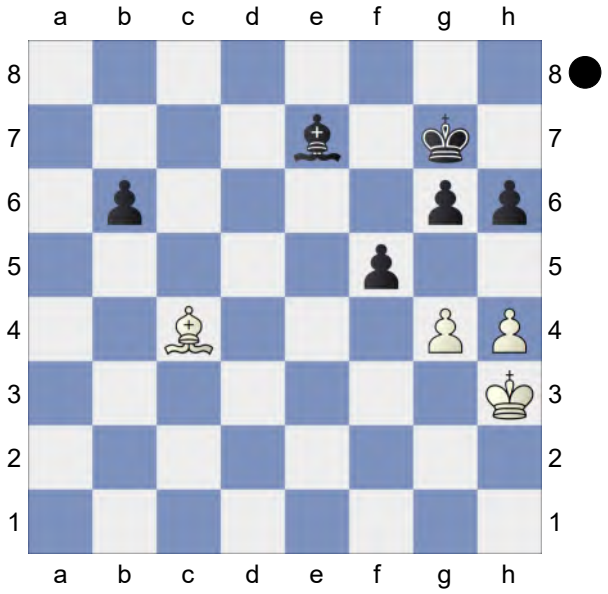
[⌓34.h3 -1.06/21]

34...Rxb4 -0.99/24

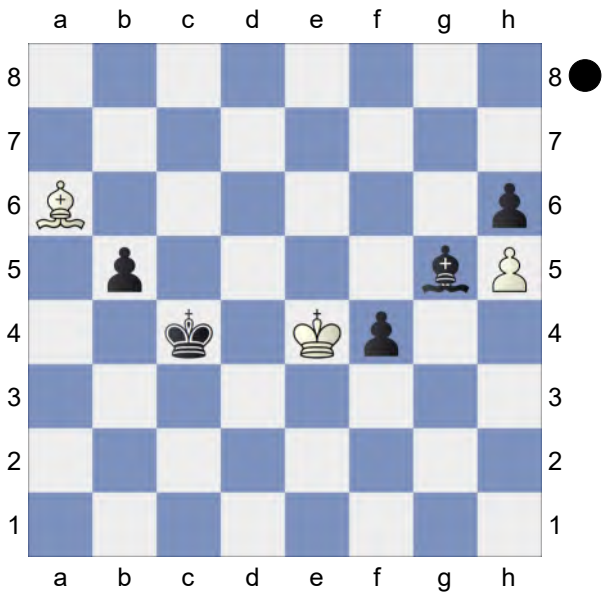
[Black should play 34...Rf2+ -1.54/22 35.Ke4 f5+ 36.Kd3 Bh2]

35.Re7 Bc5 36.Rd7 Rb3+ 37.Kg2 Re3 38.Bd5 Re7 39.Rxe7 Bxe7

KB-KB. Black is two pawns up. **40.Bc4 f5 41.Kh3 h6 42.g4** -1.27/31
[⌓42.Bb5 -0.74/27]



42...f4! 43.h5? -4.92/29
[43.Bb5∓ -1.39/28]
43...gxh5-+ 44.gxh5? -11.73/40
[44.Be2 -3.56/26 h4 45.Ba6]
44...Kf6 Black is clearly winning. **45.Kg4 Ke5 46.Bb5 Bg5 47.Kf3 Kd4 48.Ba6 Kc5 49.Ke4 b5** aiming for ...Kc5-b4. **50.Bc8 Kc4 51.Ba6**



Kb4! 52.Bc8 Kc3 What a bad dream for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.62/Black=0.21 (precise)
0-1

99 **C65**
□ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2733**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2802**
Chess.com SpeedChess Final blitz (2.10)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.Bg5 Re8 7.0-0 h6** 7...a6 injects fresh life into this line. 7...a6 bringt frisches Leben in diese Variante. **8.Bh4** The position is equal. **8...a6 9.Ba4 Bf8N** Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[9...b5 10.Bb3 Be7 *(10...g5 11.Bg3 d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Nbd2* #1 28. Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 6.O--8...h6 9. Bh4 b5 *)* 11.Nbd2 *(11.a4 Rb8 12.axb5 axb5 13.Re1 d6 14.Bg3 Nh5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Bxe5 dxe5 17.Qxh5 Be6 18.Bxe6 fxe6 19.Qxe5 Qxd3 20.Qxe6+ Kh8 21.Qd5 Rbd8 22.Qxd3 Rxd3 23.Na3 b4 24.Nb5 c6 25.Nc7 Rc8* Gazi,M (2777)-Osnos, V (2787) British Championship, Great Yarmouth 2023 CBM 068 ext [John Watson] 1-0 (31)*)* 11...d6 12.a4 Bb7 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Bd5 Qd7 15.Qb3 Na5 16.Qa3 Nc6 15. ♘c4 0-0 16. ♕e5 ♖ab8 (2660)-8. ♘f3 c5 9. ♗g5 0-0_79041 (2535) corr ICCF 2007 Telechess CBM 89 [John Watson]]
10.Nbd2 d6 11.d4 Bd7 12.Re1 Be7 0.72/22
[12...g5= 0.30/27 13.Bg3 exd4]
13.h3 0.24/24

[13.Bxc6± 0.72/22 Bxc6 14.dxe5]

13...Nh7N

[Vorgänger: 13...b5 14.Bb3 g5 1.27/20 *(Black should try 14...Nh7±* 0.41/24 *15.Bg3 Bf6)* 15.Bg3 0.71/22 *(White should play 15.Bxg5!* 1.27/20 *hxg5 16.Nxg5)* 15...Bf8± 16.Bc2 Bg7 17.Nf1 a5 18.a3 b4 19.Qd3 bxc3 20.bxc3 1-0 Tan,Z (2525)-Ju,W (2560) Xian World Summit (Women) 2021 (5)]

14.Bg3 Bf6 15.dxe5

[15.d5 is interesting. Ne7 16.Bxd7 Qxd7 17.a4]

15...Nxe5 16.Nxe5 dxe5 17.Bxd7 Qxd7 18.Nc4 Qe6 19.Qd5 Nf8 20.Rad1 Rac8 21.Na5 Rb8 22.Qxe6 Rxe6 23.Rd5 b6 24.Nc4 Rbe8 25.Red1 Ng6 26.Kf1 Rc6 27.Ne3 h5 28.f3 Bg5 29.Nf5 h4 30.Bf2 Nf4 31.Rd7 g6 0.62/25

[31...Kf8= 0.21/25 deserves consideration.]

32.Ne3!± Ne6 33.Ng4 Nf8 34.R7d5 Rce6 35.Ke2 0.17/26

[35.f4± 0.65/23 Bxf4 36.Bxh4]

35...b5 1.20/23

[35...f5= 0.17/26 remains equal.]

36.Bc5 0.38/24

[36.f4!± 1.20/23 exf4 37.Rxg5]

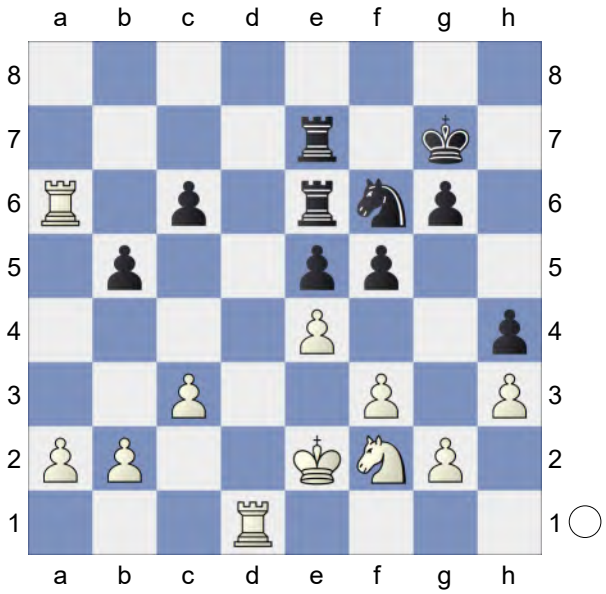
36...c6 37.R5d3 Be7 38.Bxe7 R8xe7 39.Rd8 aiming for Rc8. **39...Kg7! 40.Ra8** Rdd8 is the strong threat. **40...Nd7** 1.43/23

[Better is 40...f5± 0.46/24]

41.Rxa6± f5 42.Nf2 Nf6 1.71/20

[42...Nc5± 1.38/22 43.Ra8 Na4]

(Diagram)



43.Ra8 0.67/22

[43.Nd3!+- 1.71/20]

43...Nh5± 44.Nd3 -0.21/27

[44.Rdd8± 0.69/19]

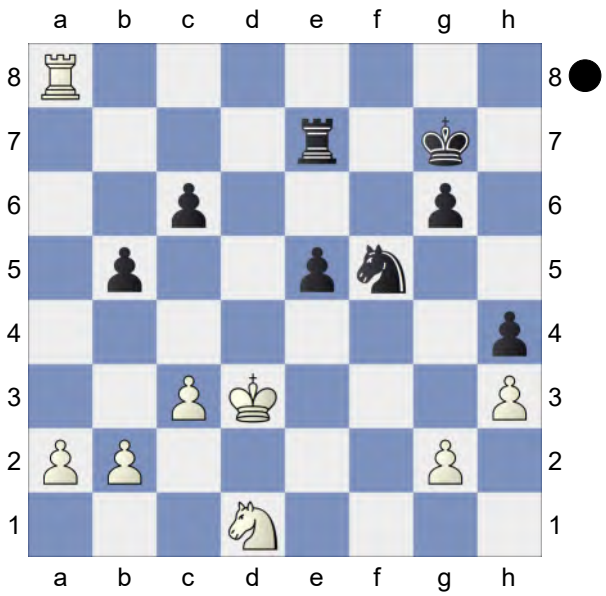
44...Ng3+= 45.Ke3 Rd6 Inhibits Rd8. Strongly threatening ...c5! **46.Kd2** -0.71/20

[46.Ra6!∓ -0.37/24]

46...fxe4∓ &Nero is more active. **47.fxe4 Nxe4+ 48.Kc2 Ng3!** Hoping for ...Nf5. **49.Nf2! Rxd1 50.Nxd1 Nf5** White must now prevent ...e4. **51.Kd3** -4.11/20

[51.Kd2∓ -1.06/21 is a better chance.]

(Diagram)



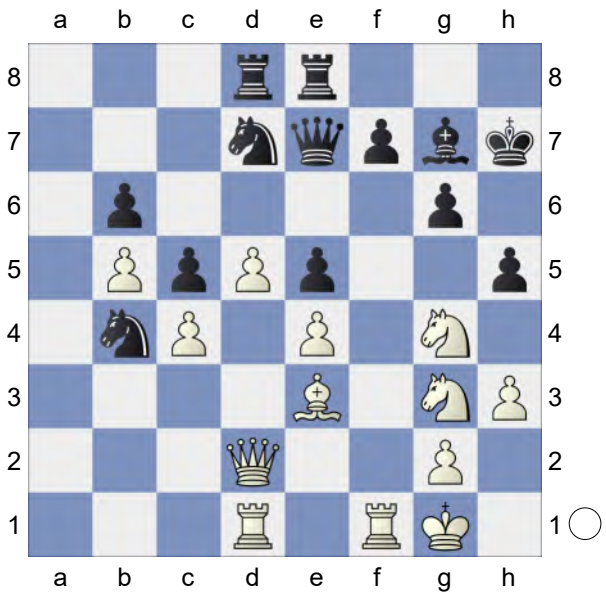
51...e4+!-+ 52.Ke2 e3 Never resign too early! Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.14 (very precise)
0-1

100 **C65**
□ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2733**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2802**
Chess.com SpeedChess Final blitz (2.28)
[Kitty Kat]

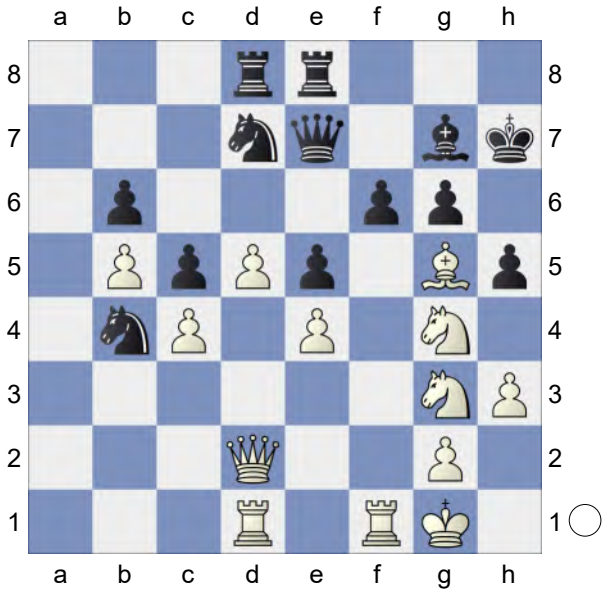
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.Bg5 Re8** 0.37/26
[6...h6= -0.01/23 7.Bxf6 Qxf6]
7.0-0 Be7N Recently 7...a6 got a lot of attention. 7...a6 erhält neuerdings viel Aufmerksamkeit.
[7...h6 8.Bh4 a6 *(8...Bf8 9.Nbd2 d6 10.d4 exd4 11.Nxd4 Bd7 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Bd3 Be7 14.f4 Qb8 15.Bxf6 Bxf6 16.e5 dxe5 17.Ne4 Qxb2 18.f5 Red8 19.Bc4 Be8 20.Qh5 Rd6 21.Rab1 Qc2 22.Qg4 Kf8* 8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10.g4_ (2585)-Chaude De Silans,C (2615) Salou ESP 2018 CBM 85 ext [Nickel] *)* 9.Ba4 b5 10.Bb3 Be7 11.Nbd2 d6 12.a4 Bb7 13.Bxf6 Bxf6 14.Bd5 Qd7 15.Qb3 Na5 16.Qa3 Nc6 15.♘c4 0-0 16.♕e5 ♖ab8 (2660)-8.♘f3 c5 9.♗g5 0-0_79041 (2535) corr ICCF 2007 Telechess CBM 89 [John Watson]]
[7...a6 8.Bc4 *(8.Bxc6 dxc6 9.Bh4 Be7 10.Nxe5 Nxe4 11.Bxe7 Qxe7 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Re1 Bg4 14.Qxg4 Nxf2 15.Rxe7 Nxg4 16.Rxe8+ Rxe8 17.Nd2 Re2 18.Nc4 Ne3 19.Nxe3 Rxe3 20.d4 Re2 21.Rb1 f6 22.Kf1 Rc2* Fedoseev,V (2676)-Aronian,L (2742) Chess.com INT 2023 ½-½ *)*
8...Be7 9.a4 d6 10.Nbd2 h6 11.Bh4 Nh5 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.Re1 Nf4 14.Nf1 Be6 15.Bxe6 Qxe6 16.g3 Ng6 17.d4 exd4 18.cxd4 d5 19.e5 a5 20.Rc1 Qd7 21.Ne3 Nf8 22.Qb3 Sudgen,J (2810)-Buchicchio,G (2783) Hangzhou 2017 200 Traps In The Opening [Hens, Bernhard] ½-½ (39)]
8.Nbd2 White has an edge. **8...d6 9.h3 Nh5N** 0.80/20
[Vorgänger: 9...h6 10.Be3 Bf8 11.c4 a6 12.Ba4! Rb8 13.Rc1 Bd7 0.10/24 *(⌓13...b5* -0.25/24 *14.Bc2 Nb4)* 14.Re1 -0.36/25 *(14.a3!=* 0.10/24 is superior.*)* 14...b5 15.cxb5 axb5 1-0 Calzetta Ruiz,M (2288)-Rodriguez Redondo,A (1726) ESP-ch (Women) 2017 (3)]
[9...Bd7± 0.32/27]
10.Be3!± Nf6 11.Re1 Bd7 12.d4 Bf8 13.Ba4 0.16/22
[White should try 13.d5± 0.67/22 Ne7 14.Bxd7 Nxd7 15.Qb3]
13...h6 0.73/24
[13...exd4= 0.16/22 remains equal. 14.Bxd4 Nxd4 15.Nxd4 g6]
14.Nf1? -0.91/23

[14.Bc2± 0.73/24 stays on course.]
14...g6? 0.95/20
[14...Nxe4∓ -0.91/23 keeps the pressure on. 15.dxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Rxe5]
15.Ng3 0.11/23
[15.d5± 0.95/20]
15...Bg7 0.97/22
[15...exd4= 0.11/23 16.Bxd4 a5]
16.Bc2 Kh7 17.Qd2 a6 1.42/21
[⌓17...a5 1.10/24]
18.Rad1 Qe7 19.Nh2 Rad8
[Weaker is 19...exd4 20.cxd4 Qf8 21.f4±]
20.f4 Bc8 21.fxe5 dxe5 22.d5 Nb8 1.86/22
[22...Na5± 1.43/22 was called for.]
23.c4+- c5 24.Rf1 1.24/24
[24.Nf3+- 1.92/22]
24...b6 1.99/21
[24...Nc6± 1.24/24]
25.a3 1.09/21
[25.b4+- 1.99/21]
25...a5 26.b4 axb4 27.axb4 Na6 28.Ba4 0.54/22
[28.bxc5!± 1.17/20 Nxc5 29.Qb4]
28...Bd7 29.Bxd7 Nxd7 2.21/22
[29...Rxd7± 0.79/24 30.b5 Nb4]
30.b5 Nb4 31.Ng4 h5

(Diagram)

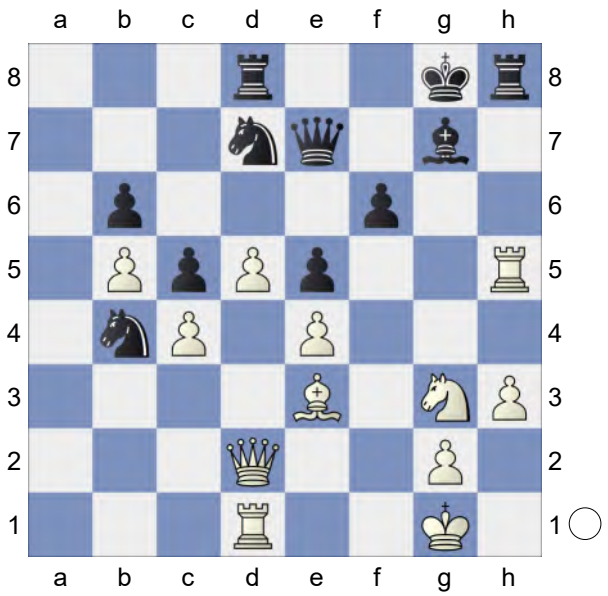


32.Nh6 1.11/23
[32.Bg5!+- 1.73/19 f6



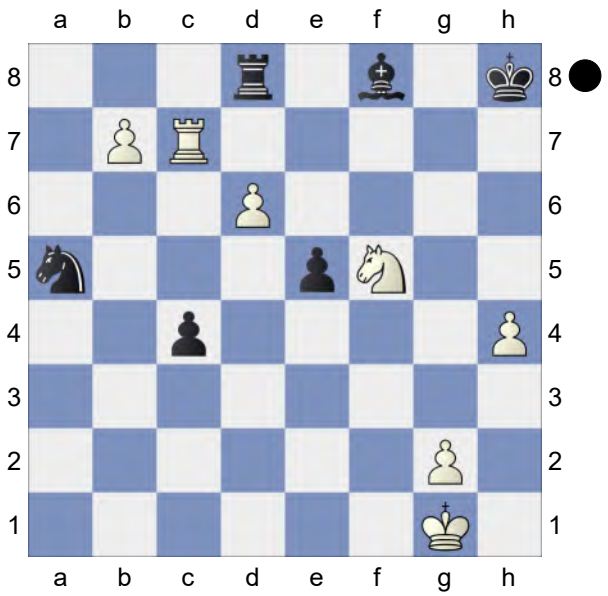
33.Rxf6! *(33.d6 Qf8=)* 33...Nxf6 34.Bxf6]
32...f6? 2.66/21
[32...Bxh6± 1.11/23 might work better. 33.Bxh6 f6]
33.Nhf5 gxf5 4.06/20
[33...Qf8 2.82/24 was necessary. 34.Nxg7 Qxg7]
34.Rxf5 Rh8 35.Rxh5+ Kg8

(Diagram)



36.Nf5! Qf7
[36...Qe8 37.Rxh8+]
37.Rxh8+ Kxh8 38.Ra1 Inhibits Ra8.
38...Nf8 39.Qe2 Nh7 40.Qg4? 1.36/25
[40.Ra3+- 4.35/21 Bf8 41.Qd1]
40...Bf8? 3.58/23
[40...Nc2± 1.36/25 keeps fighting. 41.Ra6 Rb8]
41.h4? 0.76/26
[41.Qe2+- 3.58/23 and White stays clearly on top. aiming for Ra3. Qb7 42.Qd1]
41...Nc2± 42.Ra6 &Bianco is more active. **42...Nxe3?** 3.14/22
[42...Rb8± 0.77/23]
43.Nxe3+- f5 44.Qxf5 Qxf5 45.Nxf5 Nf6 46.Rxb6 Nxe4 47.Rc6 b6 is the strong threat. **47...Nd2 48.b6** 0.19/26
[48.Ne3± 1.57/20]
48...Nxc4= 49.b7 And now Rc8 would win. **49...Na5! 50.Rc7⇄** White is not holding back **50...c4 51.d6**

(Diagram)



Nxb7! 52.Rxb7 Bxd6 Endgame KRB-KRN **53.Kh2 Bb8** White must now prevent ...c3. **54.Nh6** Threatens to win with Nf7+. **54...Rc8 55.Nf7+ Kg8** Hoping for ...c3. **56.Ng5 c3 57.h5?** -7.73/15
[57.Ne4= -0.23/27]
57...e4+-+ 58.Kh3 Bf4? -0.35/23
[Better is 58...c2-+ -6.98/19 59.Nxe4 Bc7 60.Nf6+ Kh8 61.Rxc7 Rxc7 62.Nd5 Rc4 63.g3 c1Q 64.Nf4 Qd1 65.Kg2 Rc3 66.Ng6+ Kh7 67.Nh4 Qe2+ 68.Kh3 Rc1 69.g4 Rg1 70.Ng6 Qxg4+ 71.Kh2 Qg3#]
59.Nxe4∓ c2 60.Nf6+ The position is equal. **60...Kf8 61.Nh7+ Kg8** (→ ...Be5)
[61...Ke8!? 62.Nf6+ Kf8 63.Nh7+ Kg8 64.Nf6+ Kf8=]
62.Nf6+ Kf8 63.Nh7+ Kg8
[63...Ke8!? 64.Nf6+ Kf8=]
64.Nf6+ White used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/ Black=0.46
½-½

101 **C65**
□ **Stockfishdev E608Eab** **3662**
■ **LCZero0.31-dag-5350a2e-BT4-61**
TCEC 26 Superfinal 2024 (52.1) 24.05.24
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 "Played recently by correspondence between Glasgow and Birmingham St George clubs"; first to finish in a two-game match. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.Be3 c5 9.Ne2** -0.45/22

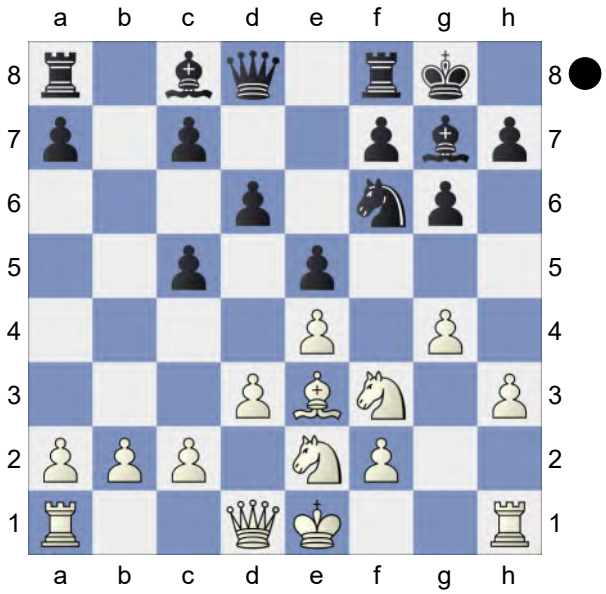
[9.a3= 0.04/22 is more appropriate.]

9...0-0∓

[9...Rb8 10.b3 Qe7 11.c4 Nh5 12.g4 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Rc1 g5 15.Nc3 c6 16.d4 f5 17.gxf5 Bxf5 18.Qe2 Bg6 19.dxc5 dxc5 20.Nd2 0-0 21.f3 Rbd8 22.Ndb1 Rd4 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Kf2 0-1 Birmingham-Glasgow,C Birmingham-Glasgow match 1889 (1)]

10.g4 -0.81/20

[10.Qd2∓ -0.38/22]



10...c4!∓ 11.Nc3N

[11.Ng3 d5 *(11...cxd3 12.cxd3 c5 13.0-0 Qc7 14.Nd2 Be6 15.Nc4 Bxc4 16.dxc4 Qc6 17.Qd3 Rfd8 18.Bg5 Qb6 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Rfb1 Rab8 21.Ne2 a6 22.Nc3 Qc6 23.Nd5 Bg5 24.b4 Rdc8 25.b5 axb5 26.cxb5* 1-0 Anderssen,A (2600)-Kieseritzky,L Int. 1851 *c4 27.bxc6 cxd3 28.Rxb8 Rxb8 29.Rd1 d2 30.Kf1 Rb5 31.c7 Rc5 32.Ke2 Kf8 33.h4 Bf4 34.Nxf4 exf4 35.Rxd2 Ke7 36.Kf3 Rxc7 37.Kxf4 h6 38.Rb2* 1-0 2.c4 e5-Noteboom A Main Line Übersicht 4.h3 (2) *)*]

11...cxd3 12.Qxd3 a5! 13.0-0-0 Ba6 14.Qd2 Bb7 15.Qd3 Qc8 16.g5 Nh5 17.Nh2 f6 18.gxf6 Rxf6 19.Ng4 Rf3 20.Qe2 Rf8 21.Qc4+ Kh8 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Nf4 24.Bxf4 Rxf4 25.a3 h5 26.Ne3 Bh6 27.Kb1 Rxf2 28.Nd1 Rf6 29.Rd3 Kh7 30.Rc3 Ra7 31.Qc6 Rf8 32.Qb5 Qe8 33.Rc6 Bd2 34.Rh2 Bg5 35.Rh1 Kh6 36.Rf1 Rxf1 37.Qxf1 Qd7

[37...Qxc6?! 38.Qf8+ Kh7 39.Qf7+ Kh6 40.Qf8+ Kh7 41.Qf7+ Kh6 42.Qf8+=]

38.Qf8+ Kh7 39.Rc3 -1.62/26

[39.Qf1∓ -1.18/25]

39...c6!-+ 40.Rd3 d5

[40...Qe7?! 41.Qc8=]

41.Qc5 Be7 42.Qf2 Kg7 Against Qf7+ **43.a4 Ra8 44.Qg2 d4 45.b3** White is weak on the dark squares **45...Rf8↑** Black is really pushing. **46.Nb2 Rf4 47.Rg3 Qd6 48.Qe2** -1.35/26

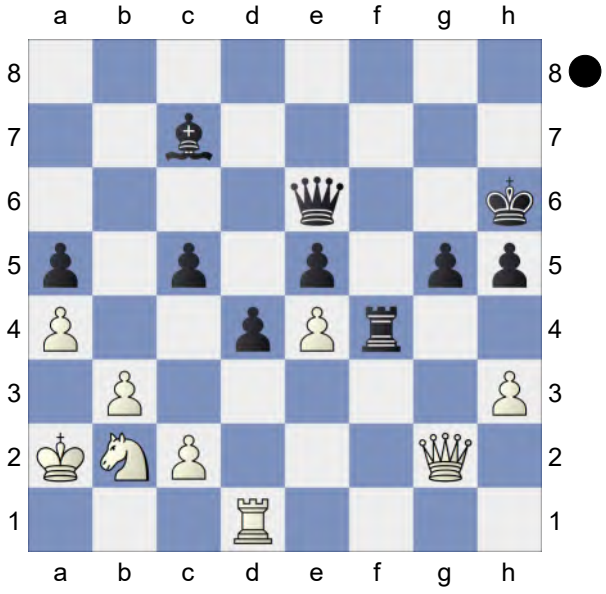
[White should try 48.Nd3 -0.96/26]

48...c5∓ 49.Rg1 -1.73/24

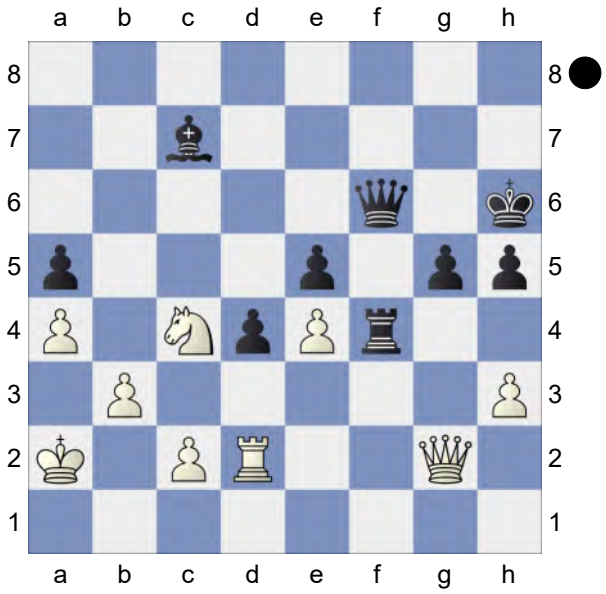
[49.Nc4∓ -1.21/24 Qf6 50.Qxh5 Rxe4 51.Ka2]

49...Qe6-+ 50.Qg2 Rh4 Black has more active pieces. **51.Rh1 Kh6** -1.04/24

[51...Bf6-+ -1.85/25 52.Nc4 Bd8]
52.Nc4 -1.74/25
[52.Qd2+∓ -1.04/24 Kh7 53.Qxa5 Rxh3 *(53...Rxe4 54.Qb5∓)* 54.Rd1]
52...Bd8 53.Ka2 Rf4 54.Rg1 g5 55.Rd1 Bc7 56.Nb2

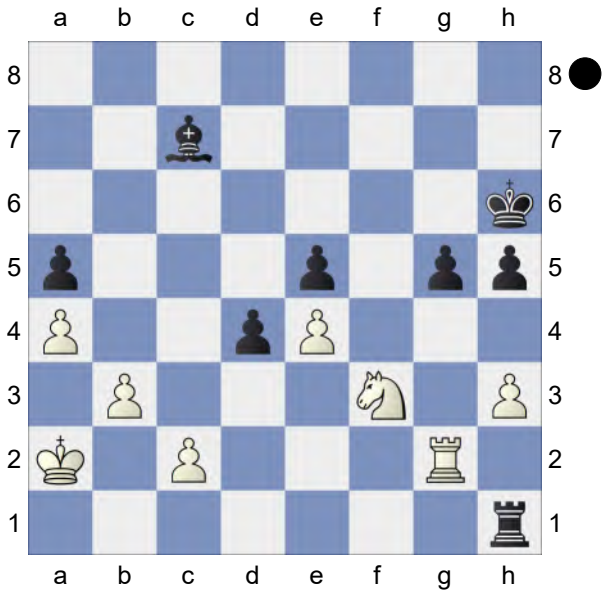


c4! Wards off Nd3 **57.Nxc4 Qf6 58.Rd2**



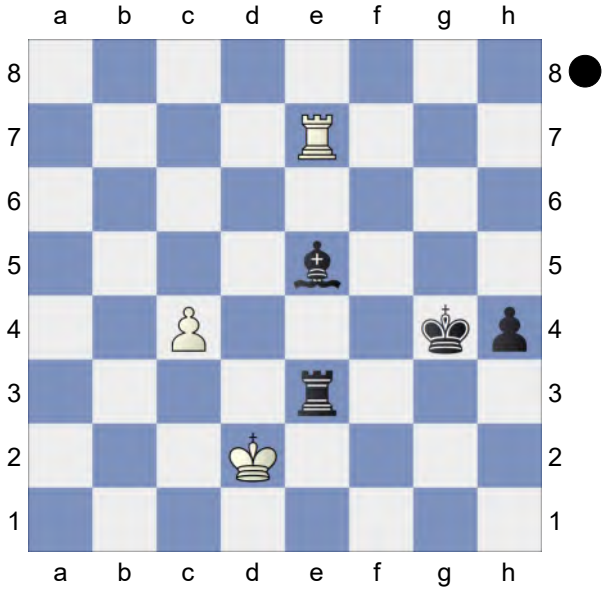
Prevents Rf2 **58...Rf1! 59.Re2 Qf3 60.Nd2 Qxg2 61.Rxg2** Endgame KRB-KRN **61...Rh1 62.Nf3**

(Diagram)



Bd8!
[62...Rxh3 63.Nxg5 Rh4 64.Nf7+ Kh7 65.Rg5 Rxe4 66.Rxh5+ Kg6 67.Rh6+ Kxf7 68.Rh7+ Ke6 69.Rxc7∓]
63.Nxe5 Threatens to win with Nf7+.
63...Bf6! 64.Nd3? -3.01/25
[64.Nd7∓ -1.12/22 Be7 65.Ne5]
64...Rxh3 65.b4 Re3
[65...axb4 66.Rf2 Bg7 67.a5∓]
66.bxa5 Rxe4 67.Kb3
[67.a6 Re8 68.Nb4 Ra8∓]
67...Re6 68.Kc4 g4 69.Nc5 Re7 70.a6 Bg5 -1.14/21
[Black should try 70...Re8-+ -1.86/22 71.Kb5 Rb8+ 72.Kc6 Rc8+ 73.Kb6 Bd8+ 74.Kb5 Ra8]
71.Kd3? -3.59/21
[71.a5∓ -1.14/21 might work better.]
71...Ra7 72.Kxd4 Be7 73.Ne4 Bd8
[73...Rxa6? 74.c4-+]
74.c4
[74.Nc5 Bc7 75.Re2 h4 76.Re6+ Kh5∓]
74...Rxa6 75.Ke5 Bc7+
[75...Rxa4? 76.c5-+]
76.Kd5 Rg6
[76...Rxa4? 77.c5-+]

77.a5 Bxa5 78.Nf2 Bc7 79.Ke4 Kg5 80.Kd3 g3 81.Rg1 Kf5 82.Nh3 g2 83.Kc2 Rg3 84.Kd1 Rxh3 85.Rxg2 KRB-KR **85...h4 86.Rg7 Be5 87.Rh7 Kg4** ...Rd3+ would now be deadly. **88.Re7 Re3** (→ ...h3) **89.Kd2**



Bf4! Black mates. **90.Rg7+ Kf3 91.Rg1 h3 92.Rf1+ Ke4 93.Kc2 h2 94.Rh1 Kd4 95.Rf1 Bg3 96.Rh1 Re1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.05 (flawless) **97.Rxh2 0-1**

102 **C65**
□ **LCZero0.31-dag-5350a2e-BT4-61**
■ **Stockfishdev E608Eab** **3662**
TCEC 26 Superfinal 2024 (51.1) 23.05.24
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 "Played recently by correspondence between Glasgow and Birmingham St George clubs"; first to finish in a two-game match. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.Nc3 Bg7 8.Be3 c5 9.Ne2** -0.51/20

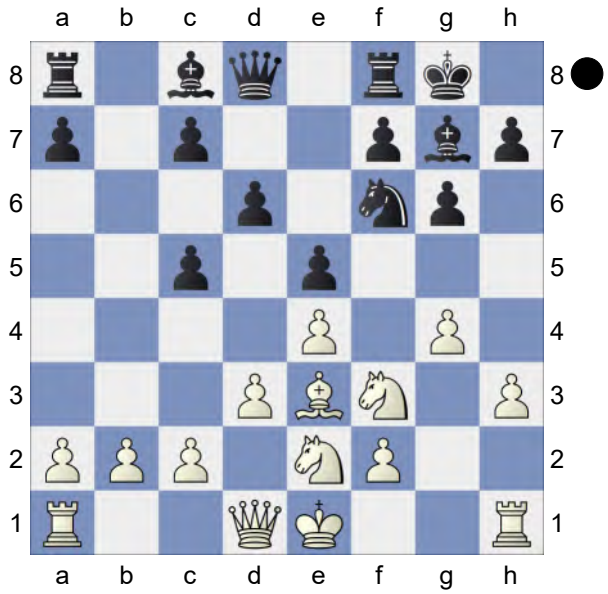
[9.a3= 0.16/20]

9...0-0

[9...Rb8 10.b3 Qe7 11.c4 Nh5 12.g4 Nf4 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.Rc1 g5 15.Nc3 c6 16.d4 f5 17.gxf5 Bxf5 18.Qe2 Bg6 19.dxc5 dxc5 20.Nd2 0-0 21.f3 Rbd8 22.Ndb1 Rd4 23.Rd1 Rfd8 24.Kf2 0-1 Birmingham-Glasgow,C Birmingham-Glasgow match 1889 (1)]

10.g4 -0.83/19

[10.Qd2∓ -0.36/20]



10...c4!∓ 11.Ng3 cxd3 12.Qxd3N

[12.cxd3 c5 13.0-0 Qc7 14.Nd2 Be6 15.Nc4 Bxc4 16.dxc4 Qc6 17.Qd3 Rfd8 18.Bg5 Qb6 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Rfb1 Rab8 21.Ne2 a6 22.Nc3 Qc6 23.Nd5 Bg5 24.b4 Rdc8 25.b5 axb5 26.cxb5 c4 1-0 Anderssen,A (2600)-Kieseritzky,L Int. 1851 27.bxc6 cxd3 28.Rxb8 Rxb8 29.Rd1 d2 30.Kf1 Rb5 31.c7 Rc5 32.Ke2 Kf8 33.h4 Bf4 34.Nxf4 exf4 35.Rxd2 Ke7 36.Kf3 Rxc7 37.Kxf4 h6 38.Rb2 1-0 2.c4 e5-Noteboom A Main Line Übersicht 4.h3 (2)]

12...Qe7 13.c4 Rb8 14.b3 c6 15.Rc1 Rd8 16.Qc3 Nd7 17.0-0 Nf8 18.Kh2 Ne6 19.Rg1 Kh8! 20.Rcd1 Rb7 21.Qc1 c5 22.Qd2 Qf8 23.Rdf1 Nd4 24.Ne1 Bd7 -0.69/20 Black is more active.

[Better is 24...f5∓ -1.10/22 25.gxf5 gxf5]

25.f4 exf4 26.Bxf4 -1.27/25

[White should play 26.Rxf4 -0.84/22 Kg8 27.Nd3]

26...Bc6 27.Nf3 Re8 28.Nxd4 cxd4 29.Rf2 h6! Wards off Bg5 **30.Qd3 Qe7 31.Bc1! Qh4**

[31...Bxe4 simplifies 32.Nxe4 Qxe4 33.Qxe4 Rxe4 34.Kg2 Rd7]

32.Bb2 h5 White does not recover from this. **33.Bxd4?** -2.73/24

[33.gxh5!∓ -0.61/22 Rxe4 *(33...Bxe4 34.Qd2=)* 34.hxg6 fxg6 35.Qf3 Pin *(35.Nxe4? Bxe4-+)*]

33...hxg4-+ 34.Bxg7+ -2.53/24

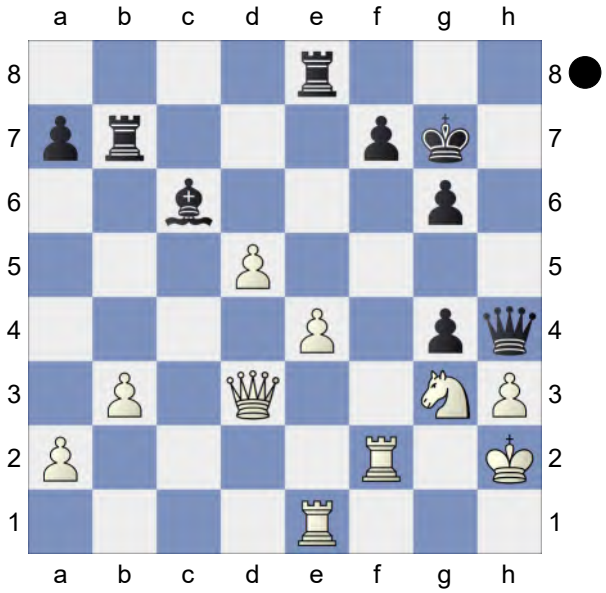
[⌓34.Rgf1 -1.69/22]

34...Kxg7 35.Re1 d5→ White is in trouble.

[35...gxh3 36.Qd4+ Re5 37.c5∓]

[35...Qxh3+ 36.Kg1 Rh8 37.Qxd6=]

36.cxd5



Bxd5 Pin **37.Rfe2**

[37.Kg1 gxh3]

37...Bc6

[37...Qxh3+ 38.Kg1 Bxb3 39.Qc3+ *(39.axb3 Qh4+-; 39.Rh2 Be6+-)* 39...Kg8 40.axb3± *(40.Rh2 Bxa2 41.Rxh3 gxh3+-)*]

38.Qc3+ Kg8 39.Kg1 gxh3

[39...Qxh3? 40.Rh2 *(40.Qxc6?* perishes. *Qxg3+ 41.Kf1 Re6-+)* 40...Bd7 41.Rxh3+-]

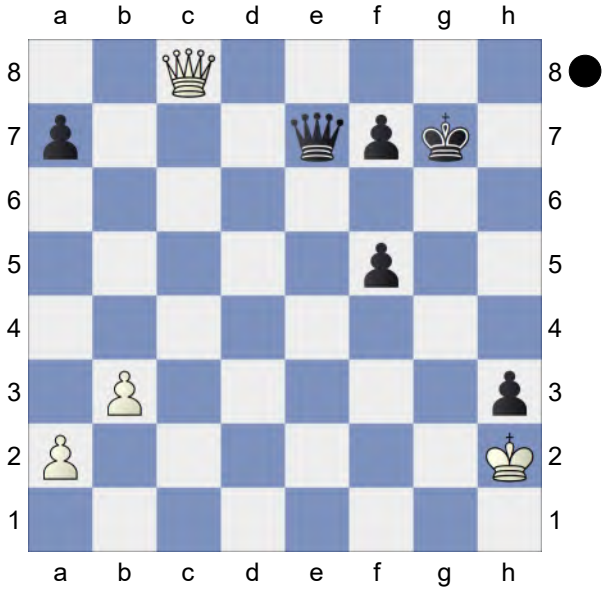
40.Nf5 gxf5 41.Qxc6 Rxe4 (→ ... Qg3+) **42.Kh1 Rxe2**

[42...Qxe1+? 43.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 44.Kh2 Re2+ 45.Kh1-+]

43.Rxe2 Endgame KQR-KQR. Black is two pawns up. **43...Re7**

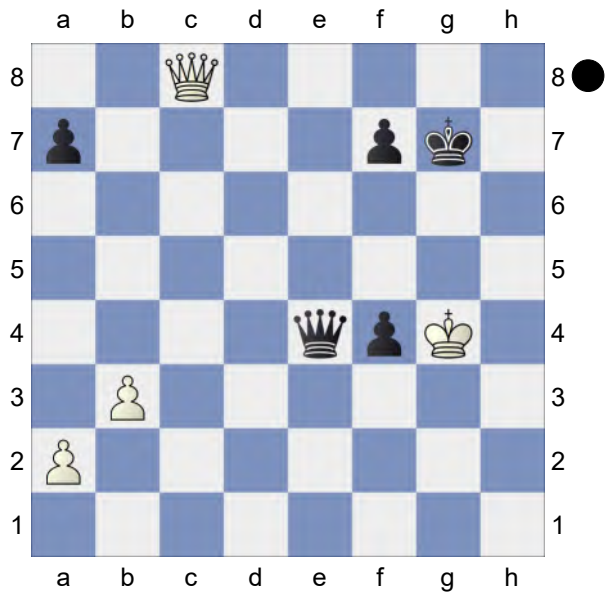
[Less strong is 43...Rb8 44.Qc5∓]

44.Qc8+ Kg7 45.Rxe7 Qxe7 KQ-KQ. Black is two pawns up. **46.Kh2**



Qe4 47.Kxh3 f4 48.Kg4

(Diagram)



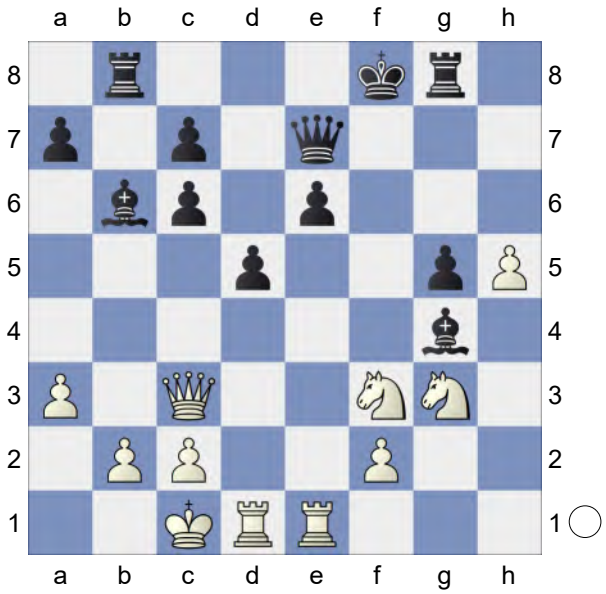
Inhibits Qf3+. **48...f5+! 49.Kg5 Qg2+ 50.Kxf4 Qg4+**
[50...Qxa2 51.Qd7+ *(51.Kxf5 Qf2+ 52.Ke4 Qe2+ 53.Kd4 Qd2+ 54.Ke5 Qe3+ 55.Kd6 Qg3+ 56.Kc6 Qc3+ 57.Kb7 Qxb3+ 58.Kxa7 Kh7=)* 51...Kf6 52.Qxf5+ Ke7 53.Qe5+ Kd7 54.Qd4+ Kc6 55.Qc3+ Kd7 56.Qd3+ Ke7 57.Qe4+ Kd7 58.Qb7+ Kd6 59.Qb4+ Kc7 60.Qc4+ Kb6 61.Qe6+ Kc7 62.Qc4+ Kb6 63.Qb4+ Kc7 64.Qc3+ Kb6 65.Qe3+ Kb5 66.Qe8+ Kb6 67.Qe3+ Kb5 68.Qe5+ Kb4 69.Qe7+ Kxb3 70.Qe6+ Kb2 71.Qe5+ Kc2 72.Qe2+ Kb3 73.Qb5+ Kc3 74.Qe5+ Kd3 75.Qe3+ Kc2 76.Qe2+ Kb1 77.Qd1+ Kb2 78.Qe2+ Kb1 79.Qe1+ Kb2 80.Qe2+ Ka3 81.Qe7+ Kb2 82.Qg7+ Kb3 83.Qb7+ Kc3 84.Qg7+ Kb3 85.Qg8+ Kb2 86.Qg7+ Kb3=]
51.Ke5 Hoping for Qd7+. **51...Qe4+ 52.Kd6 f4 53.Qd7+ Kh6 54.Qh3+ Kg5 55.Qc3 f3 56.Kc7 Kf5** (→ ...Qe5+) **57.Kc8 Ke6 58.Qc1 f2** ...Kf7 is the strong threat. **59.Qh6+ Kf7** (→ ...Qe6+) **60.Qh5+ Qg6 61.Qf3+ Qf6 62.Qb7+ Kg8 63.Qe4 f1Q** Black mates. **64.Qd5+ Kf8 65.Kb7 Q1a6+ 66.Kc7 Qc3+ 67.Qc5+ Qxc5+ 68.Kd7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.04 (flawless) **68...Qcc8#**
0-1

103 **C48**
□ **Nihal,Sarin** **2676**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2739**
Tata Steel India Blitz (5) 16.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Bg5**
[6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.h3 Nd7 8.Be3 Bd6 9.Ne2 Re8 10.g4 Nc5 11.Ng3 Ne6 12.Nf5 c5 13.h4 a5 14.h5 Ra6 15.Qd2 Nd4 16.Rh3 Bf8 17.0-0-0 Be6 18.Kb1 f6 19.c3 Nxf3 20.Rxf3 c4 1-0 Deslandes,P (2799)-Buchicchio, G (2782) Malmoe 45/566 1987 (5)]
6...h6 7.Bh4 d6 0.28/19
[7...Nd4!∓ -0.48/18]
8.Qd2N White has an edge.
[8.Nd5 a6 9.Bxc6 bxc6 10.Nxf6+ gxf6 11.Qd2 Kg7 12.0-0 Kh7 13.d4 exd4 14.Nxd4 Rg8 15.Nf5 Bxf5 16.exf5 Qd7 17.Rfe1 Rae8 18.Qf4 Rxe1+ 19.Rxe1 d5 20.Bxf6 Qd6 21.Be5 Qd7 22.Bc3 Qd6 1-0 Chmel, K (1357)-Kuksov,V Aberystwyth-Cambridge match 1897 23.Qh4 Qd8 24.f6 d4 25.Bd2 Rg6 26.Re5 Bd6 27.Rh5 Qxf6 28.Qe4 Kg7 29.Rf5 Qe6 30.Qxd4+ f6 31.Rf3 Qe5 32.Qxe5 Bxe5 33.Bc3 Bxc3 34.Rxc3 Kf7 35.Rxc6 f5 36.Rxg6 Kxg6 37.Kf1 Kf6 1-0 Misios,K (1357)-Kovac, F EU-ch Cities&Town U18 op 2023]
8...Be6 Repels Nc3-d5 **9.Bxc6 bxc6 10.Ne2** -0.42/17

[10.h3!± 0.39/18]
10...Kh7 0.15/18
[10...Rb8∓ -0.42/17]
11.h3 Rg8 12.g4 -0.44/18
[12.0-0-0= 0.14/19]
12...g5!∓ 13.Bg3 Kg7 0.64/18
[13...Rb8= -0.14/18]
14.0-0-0± Rb8 1.14/20
[14...Bb6± 0.69/17 is superior.]
15.a3 0.47/17
[15.d4± 1.14/20 Nxe4 16.Qd3 Nxg3 17.Nxg3 exd4 18.Nxd4]
15...Kf8 1.08/21
[Better is 15...Bb6± 0.47/17]
16.Qc3 0.62/20
[16.d4± 1.08/21 Nxe4 17.Qd3 Nxg3 18.Nxg3 *(18.fxg3 exd4 19.Rhf1 Qc8∓)* 18...exd4 19.Nh5]
16...Qe7 1.36/19
[16...Bb6± 0.62/20]
17.Rhe1 0.63/20
[17.Nd2± 1.36/19]
17...h5 18.gxh5 Bxh3 19.d4 0.01/20
[19.h6± 0.94/19]
19...Nxe4= 20.Qe3 Nxg3 21.Nxg3 Bb6 22.Qc3 -0.01/19 White is more active.
[22.h6!± 0.71/19]
22...Bg4 1.10/20
[22...g4= -0.01/19 remains equal. 23.Nxe5 dxe5 24.Rxe5 Qf6]
23.dxe5± d5 24.e6!↑ White is really pushing. **24...fxe6** 1.76/20
[24...Bxf2± 0.77/21 25.Ne5 *(25.exf7 Qxf7 26.Ne5 Qf4+* Deflection, Double Attack *27.Kb1 Bxd1=)* 25...d4 *(25...Bxd1? 26.Nd7++-; 25...Bxe1 26.Rxe1 Bxe6 27.Nxc6+-; 25...Qxe6? 26.Ng6+* Discovered Attack *Rxg6 27.Rxe6+-; 25...Bxe6 26.Nxc6 Qd6 27.Rxe6±)*]

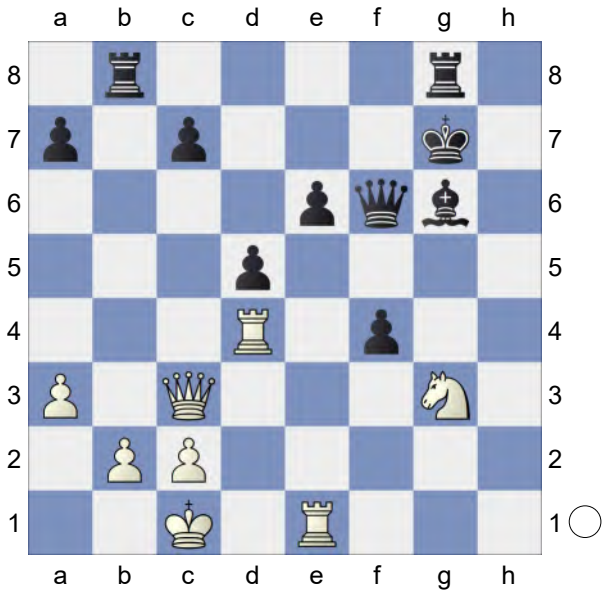
(Diagram)



25.Nd4? 0.23/20 **Qf7?** 2.08/20
[25...Qf6!= 0.23/20 and Black stays safe. 26.Rd3 *(26.Nxc6 Qxc3 27.bxc3 Bxd1∓; 26.Nxe6+? Kf7-+)* 26...Re8 *(26...Qxf2? 27.Rf1+-* Pin *)*]
26.f3
[26.Nxc6 Bxd1 27.Kxd1 *(27.Nxb8 Bxf2 28.Kxd1 Bxe1±)* 27...Re8]
26...Bxd4
[26...Qf4+? 27.Kb1 Qxg3 28.Nxc6 *(28.fxg4? Qxc3* Remove Defender *29.bxc3 Bxd4+-+* Discovered Attack (Check) *)* 28...Bxh5 *(28...Qxf3? 29.Rf1+-* Pin *)* 29.Qf6+ *(29.Nxb8 Qd6+-)* 29...Bf7 30.Qh6+ *(30.Nxb8 Qd6+-)* 30...Ke8 31.Rxe6+ *(31.Nxb8 Qd6±)* 31...Kd7 32.Re7+ *(32.Nxb8+ Kc8+-)* 32...Kc8 33.Rxf7+-]
27.Rxd4 Bxh5 2.65/21
[27...Bxf3 1.74/19 was necessary. 28.Ra4 *(28.Qxc6 Re8±)* 28...Bg2]
28.Qc5+ Kg7 29.Qxc6 0.56/21
[29.Qxa7 Bxf3 *(29...Qxf3 30.Nxh5+ Qxh5 31.Rxe6+-)* 30.Nf1 Bh5∓]
[White should play 29.Nxh5++- 1.74/20 Qxh5 30.Rg4 *(30.Rxe6 Rbe8±; 30.Qxc6 Rb6±; 30.Qe7+ Qf7±)*]

29...Bg6 1.96/22
[29...Bxf3± 0.56/21 30.Rxe6 *(30.Qxe6 Qxe6 31.Rxe6 Rh8∓)* 30...Rb6 31.Nf5+ Deflection Qxf5 32.Qd7+ Kh8 33.Rh6+ Discovered Attack Rxh6 34.Qxf5 Be4 35.Qe5+ Rg7]
30.Qc3+- and Rd4-f4+ would now be decisive
[30.Rxe6 Rb6 31.Rxg6+ Qxg6 32.Qxd5 *(32.Qxc7+ Kh8=)* 32...Re8=]
[30.Qxe6?! Rbe8 31.Qxf7+ Bxf7±]
30...Qf6 3.71/22
[30...Kf8 1.91/21 31.Ra4 Rg7]
31.f4? -0.57/21
[31.Qxc7+ Qf7 32.Qe5+ Qf6±]
[31.Rxe6+- 3.71/22 Qxe6 32.Re4+ Kf7 *(32...d4? 33.Qxd4+ Kf7 34.Rxe6+-)* 33.Qxc7+ *(33.Rxe6 Kxe6 34.Qc6+ Ke5+-)* 33...Kf6 34.Rxe6+ Kxe6 35.Qxa7]
31...gxf4? 2.89/22
[31...c5!∓ -0.57/21 32.Rxd5 *(32.Qxc5? Rgc8-+)* 32...Qxc3 *(32...exd5? 33.Re7+ Bf7 34.Nh5+* Pin, Double Attack *Kg6 35.Nxf6+-)* 33.Rd7+ Kf8 34.bxc3 gxf4]

(Diagram)



32.Rxe6! **Qxe6** **33.Re4+** Discovered Attack (Check) **33...Qf6?** 15.53/21
[33...d4 34.Qxd4+ Kf7 *(34...Qf6? 35.Re7+ Bf7 36.Nh5+* Pin, Double Attack *Kg6 37.Nxf6+-)* 35.Rxe6 Kxe6 36.Ne2 *(36.Qxf4 Rbe8+-)*]
[33...Kf7 2.97/21 34.Qxc7+ *(34.Rxe6 Kxe6 35.Qc6+ Ke7+-)* 34...Kf6 35.Qxf4+ *(35.Rxe6+ Kxe6 36.Ne2 Be4+-)* 35...Ke7 36.Qc7+ *(36.Rxe6+ Kxe6 37.Ne2 Rbf8+-)* 36...Kf6 37.Rxe6+ Kxe6]
34.Re7+
[34.Rxf4? is the wrong capture. Qxc3 35.bxc3 Rgf8-+]
34...Bf7 **35.Nh5+** Pin, Double Attack
35...Kh6 **36.Qxf6+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.54/Black=0.97
1-0

104 **C65**
□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2723**
■ **Le,Quang Liem** **2741**
Olympiad-45 Budapest (7.1) 18.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Gormally, Daniel: 'Anand vs Kramnik - could this be a prelude to a world championship match later? Only time will tell. Tadic,Br: 'Tadic,Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'' Tadic,Br: 'Tadic, Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...' Van Delft & Ris: 'Arkadij Naiditsch: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...''" Anand vs Kramnik - could this be a prelude to a world championship match later? Only time will tell. Van Delft & Ris: 'Arkadij Naiditsch: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'" Anand vs Kramnik - could this be a prelude to a world championship match later? Only time will tell. Tadic,Br: 'Tadic, Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'' Tadic,Br: 'Tadic, Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...' Van Delft & Ris: 'Arkadij Naiditsch: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'"

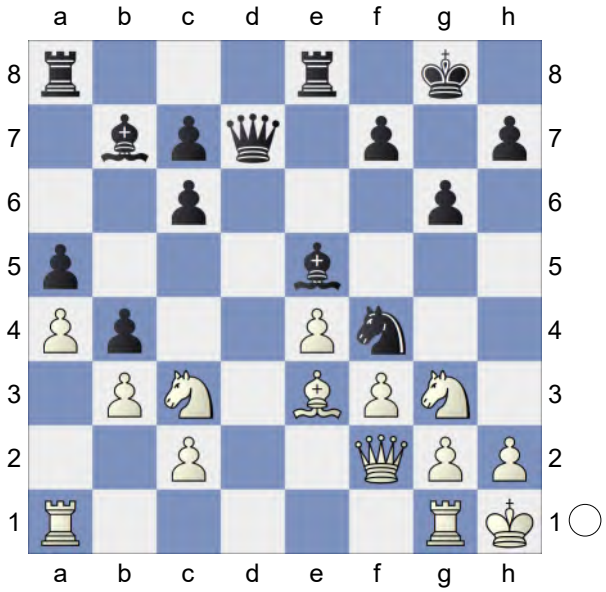
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc4 Re8 9.a4 a5 10.Kh1 b6 11.Be3 Bb4

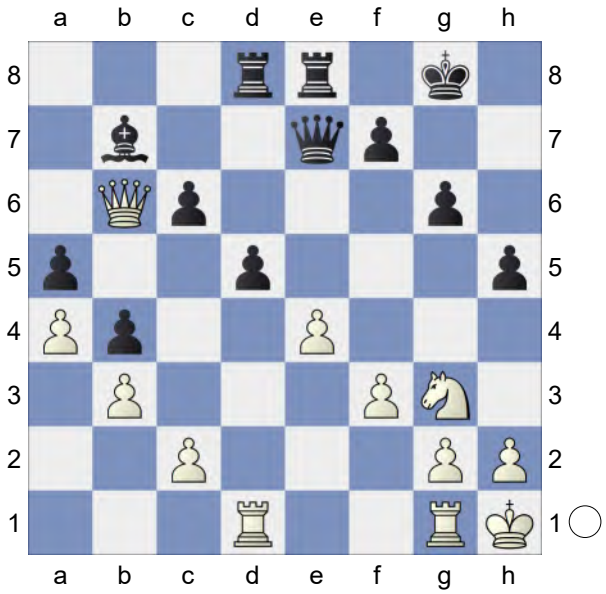
[11...Bf8 12.Rg1 Ba6 13.Ncd2 c5 14.g4 Nb8 15.Qf1 Nc6 16.Qh3 Nd4 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.g5 b5 19.axb5 Bxb5 20.Nh4 g6 21.Qg3 Bd6 22.Nhf3 a4 23.h4 Qe7 24.Nh2 Bd7 25.Ng4 Bxg4 26.Qxg4 1-0 Pranav,V (2609)-Blohberger,F (2520) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (2)]

12.Rg1N -0.26/19
[12.Bd2 0.14/23 should be considered.]
[12.Nfd2 b5 13.axb5 cxb5 14.c3 bxc4 15.cxb4 cxd3 16.bxa5 Ba6 17.Qb3 Nf6 18.h3 Nh5 19.Rfc1 Nf4 20.Rc6 Ne2 21.Qd5 Qb8 22.Rxa6 Rxa6 23.Qxd3 Qxb2 24.Rb1 Rd6 25.Qxe2 Qa2 26.Qb5 c6 1-0 Anand, V (2780)-Kramnik,V (2810) Zuerich 117/96 2013 27.Qb2]
12...b5= 13.Na3 Ba6 14.Nb1 Bb7 15.Nfd2 Nb6 16.b3 Qd7 17.Qe2 Nc8 18.f3 Ne7 19.Qf2 Ng6 20.Nf1 Nf4 21.Ng3 g6 22.d4 0.03/19
[22.Ne2± 0.45/20]
22...Bd6 The position is equal. **23.Nc3 b4 24.dxe5 Bxe5**



Pin **25.Rad1! Qe7 26.Nce2 Nxe2 27.Nxe2 Rad8 28.Bc5 Bd6 29.Bxd6 cxd6 30.Qb6 d5 31.Ng3 h5**

(Diagram)



Threatens to win with ...h5-h4. **32.exd5!**
[32.Qxa5? loses. h4 33.Nf1 dxe4-+]
32...cxd5 White must now prevent ...h5-h4. **33.h3**
[Don't play 33.Qxa5 h4 34.Nf1 h3∓]
33...Rc8 34.Rge1 Qxe1+ 35.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 36.Kh2 h4 37.Qxb7 hxg3+ 38.Kxg3 Rxc2 39.Qxd5 Rb1 40.Qd8+ Kg7 41.Qd4+ Kg8 42.Qd8+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

105 **C65**
□ **Robson,Ray** **2693**
■ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2733**
USA-ch Saint Louis (7) 18.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 The main reason for annotating the game is the complete blind spot experienced by both the players on the 46th move when both had enough time and Caruana missed a simple move that would either mate Grischuk or win a piece. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3**

Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Nbd2 Be6 8.d4 The position is equal. 8.Nb3 is becoming the main line. 8.Sb3 wird zur Hauptvariante. **8...Nd7 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.f4 Bd4+ 12.Kh1 f5** 0.38/19

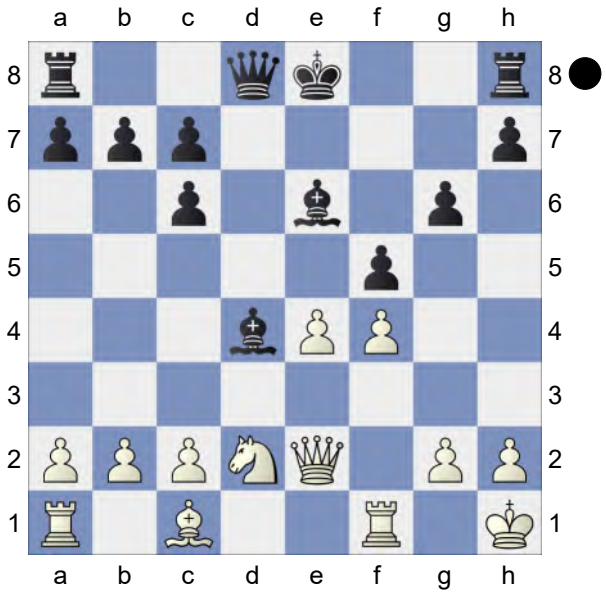
[12...f6!= 0.03/19]

13.Qh5+±

[13.Nf3 Bf6 14.e5 Be7 15.Be3 Qxd1 16.Raxd1 Kf7 17.Nd4 Rad8 18.Nxe6 Kxe6 19.Kg1 a6 20.Kf2 Rxd1 21.Rxd1 Rd8 22.Rc1 h6 23.c4 g5 24.g3 g4 25.h3 h5 26.hxg4 fxg4 27.Rh1 Rh8 Kienboeck,B (2241)-Charaus,F (1993) Austria 2023 0-1 (49)]

[13.Qe2 0-0 14.Rd1 Qe7 15.Nf3 Bc5 16.Re1 Rae8 17.exf5 Bd5 18.Ne5 Rxf5 19.c4 Be6 20.Bd2 Bd6 21.Rf1 Ref8 22.b3 Bxe5 23.fxe5 Qc5 24.Bc3 b5 25.Rxf5 Rxf5 26.Rd1 Qf2 27.Qd3 bxc4 Robson,R (2668)-Nakamura,H (2793) Saint Louis USA 2017 [Mikhalevski,V] 0-1 (65)]

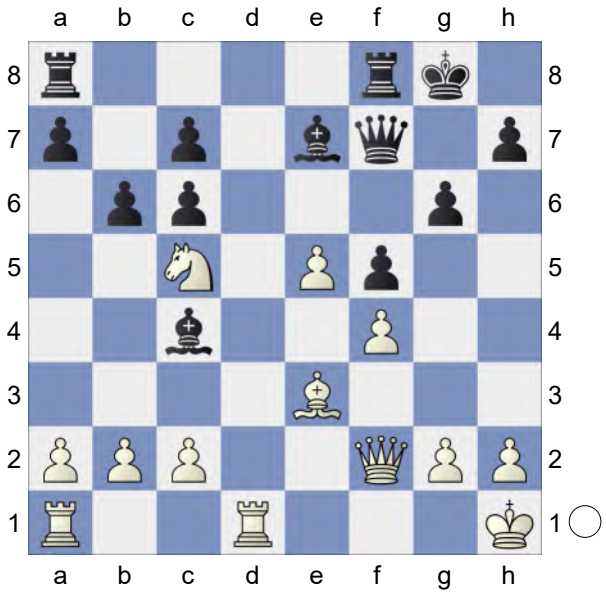
13...g6 14.Qe2



And now exf5 would win. **14...0-0 15.Rd1** Nb3 is the strong threat. **15...Qe8N**

[15...Bf6 16.Nf3 Qe8 17.e5 Be7 18.Nd4 Qf7 19.Nxe6 Qxe6 20.Be3 Rfd8 21.a4 *(21.c4 a6 22.b3 Kf7 23.a4 Ke8 24.h3 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Rd8 26.Rxd8+ Bxd8 27.Bc5 Kf7 28.Qd2 Bh4 29.Kh2 h5 30.a5 Qe8 31.Ba3 Qd8 32.Qb4 b6 33.Qc3 c5 34.Bb2 Qd1 35.e6+ Kxe6* Caruana,F (2787)-Grischuk,A (2750) London 2015 CBM 170 [Sagar,Shah] ½-½ (58) *)* 21...a5 ½-½ Motylev,A (2628)-Kozak,A (2549) Budapest Kallai Memorial Rapid 2022 (8) 22.h3 Kf7 23.b3 b6 24.c4 Ke8 25.Bf2 Rab8 26.Qc2 Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 Rd8 28.Rxd8+ Bxd8 29.Qd1 Be7 30.g4 fxg4 31.hxg4 g5 32.Qd3 Qxg4 33.f5 Qh5+ 34.Kg2 Qg4+ 35.Kh2 Qh5+ 36.Kg2 Qg4+ Novik (2628)-Maheswaran,P (2549) Rishon Le Zion 2022 CBM 087 Extra [John Watson] ½-½ (38)]

16.e5 Bc5 17.Nb3 Be7 18.Be3 Prevents c5. **18...Qf7 19.Nc5 Bc4 20.Qf2 b6**



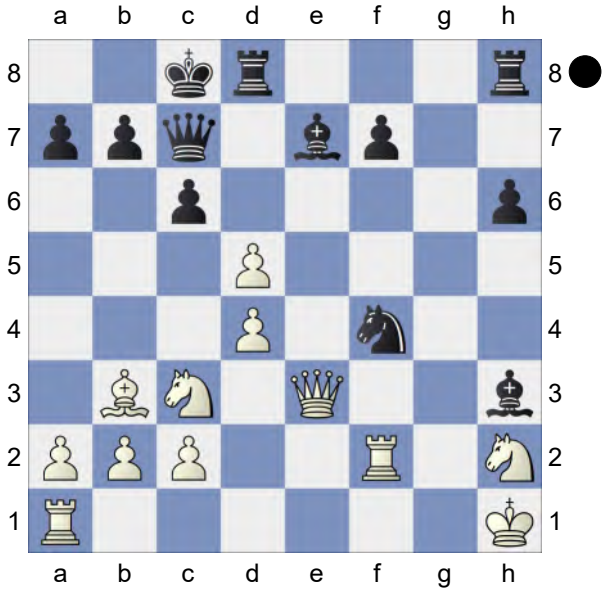
21.b3! Be6 22.Nxe6 Qxe6 23.Qe2 a5

24.a4 Rfd8 25.h3 h5 26.Bf2 Rd5 27.c4 Rdd8 28.Qe1 Bb4 29.Qe2 0.01/19
[29.Qe3± 0.55/22]
29...Be7!= 30.c5 bxc5 31.Qc2 c4 0.81/21
[31...Rxd1+± 0.50/21 might be stronger. 32.Rxd1 Rb8]
32.bxc4±
[But not 32.Qxc4?! Qxc4 33.bxc4 Kf7=]
32...Kf7 33.Be1 Bc5 1.07/18
[33...Rxd1± 0.61/20 feels stronger. 34.Rxd1 Kg8]
34.Bh4 Rdb8 1.63/23
[34...Re8± 0.98/19]
35.Rd3+- Rb4 1.98/21
[35...Re8± 1.54/22 36.Rad1 Be7]
36.Rad1 1.02/21
[36.Qd2+- 1.98/21]
36...Rxc4? 2.75/25 This costs Black the game.
[36...Kg8± 1.02/21 was called for.]
37.Qb3 Re8 38.Rd7+ Kg8? 7.24/21
[38...Kf8 2.44/23]
39.Bf6 3.13/19
[⌓39.Qg3 7.24/21 White threatens Bf6 and mate. Rf8 40.Bf6 Rxf6 41.exf6 Qxf6 42.Qb3]
39...Rxf4? 19.41/23
[39...Kf8 3.13/19 40.Kh2 Rd4 41.Qxe6 Rxe6 42.R1xd4 Bxd4 43.Rxd4 c5]
40.Qg3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.17 (very precise)
1-0

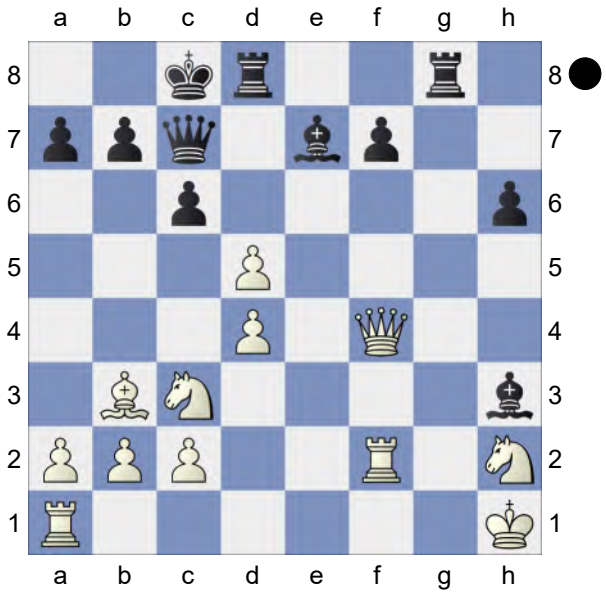
106 **C65**
□ **Praggnanandhaa,Rameshbabu 2749**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano 2793**
Saint Louis Rapid (6) 13.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Ne7 5.Nc3 c6 6.Bc4 d6** 6...Ng6 is not played anymore. 6...Sg6 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. **7.Bb3**
[7.d4 is more complex. exd4 8.Nxd4 d5 9.exd5 Nexd5 10.Nxd5 Nxd5 11.Qe2+]
[7.0-0 h6 8.d4 Qc7 9.Nh4 g5 10.dxe5 dxe5 11.Qf3 Bg7 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.exf5 Rd8 14.Bd3 Ned5 15.Nxd5 Nxd5 16.Be4 Nf6 17.c3 0-0 18.h3 Qb6 19.Qe2 Rd7 20.a4 Rfd8 21.Be3 Qc7 Esipenko,A (2714)-Rapport,R (2763) Wijk aan Zee 2022 CBM 217 [Kuzmin,Alexey] ½-½ (36)]
7...h6 8.d4 White has an edge. **8...Qc7 9.Nh4N** -0.22/22
[Vorgänger: 9.Be3 Ng6 10.a4 Against b5 Be7 11.h3 0-0 12.Qd2 exd4 13.Nxd4 Re8 14.0-0-0 -0.25/21 *(14.0-0* 0.16/22 might be stronger.*)* 14...Bf8 0.44/20 *(14...a6!=* -0.25/21 *)* 15.f3 1-0 Saric,I (2647)-Antipov,M (2600) AI Cup Div 2 L rapid 2023 (1.2) a6 16.g4 b5 17.g5 hxg5 18.Bxg5 b4 19.Nce2 Nh7 20.Rhg1 Bd7 21.Nf4 Nxf4 22.Qxf4 Be6 23.Bh6 Bxb3 24.Bxg7 Bxg7 25.Nf5 1-0 (25) Modestov,B (2647)-Fischer,F (2600) The Week in Chess 273 [John Watson]]
[⌓9.a4 0.28/25]
9...g5 10.Nf3 Ng6 11.Be3 Ng4 0.68/22
[11...Nf4= 0.28/22]
12.h3 -0.02/22

[12.d5!± 0.68/22]
12...Nxe3= 13.fxe3 g4 14.Nh2 -0.65/23
[14.hxg4= 0.27/22 Bxg4 15.Qd3]
14...exd4 -0.07/26
[Better is 14...gxh3∓ -0.65/23 15.0-0 Rh7]
15.exd4 0-0 is the strong threat.
15...gxh3 16.0-0 d5 17.exd5 hxg2 18.Kxg2
[18.Rf6!? Be7 19.Rxf7±]
18...Nf4+ 19.Kh1 Hoping for Qf3.
19...Bh3 White must now prevent ... Bg2+. Dancing on a razor blade.
20.Qe1+ Be7 This bishop pair is nice.
21.Rf2 -3.10/20 Against Bg2+. White does not recover from this.
[White must play 21.Qe3!∓ -0.33/23 Bg2+ 22.Kg1]
21...0-0-0 Strongly threatening ...Bh4.
22.Qe3 -4.19/16
[Not 22.Rxf4? Qxf4 23.Qe4 *(23.Qxe7 gets mated. Rhg8 24.Qe2 Qg3)* 23...Qxe4+ 24.Nxe4 Rhg8-+]
[⌓22.Ne2 -2.68/21 Nxd5 23.Bxd5 cxd5 24.Rf3]



22...Rhg8!-+ 23.dxc6
[Reject 23.Qxf4



Bg2+! 24.Rxg2 Qxf4-+]
[23.Rg1 Rxg1+]
23...Qxc6+ Black is clearly winning.
24.d5 -7.97/18
[⌓24.Ne4 -4.43/20 Qg6 25.Qc3+ Kb8 26.Qf3]
24...Qg6 (→ ...Bg2+) **25.Qe4 Bc5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.74/ Black=0.12 (very precise)
0-1

107 **C65**
□ **Narayanan,Sunilduth Lyna** **2647**
■ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2777**
Tata Steel India Blitz (16) 17.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Inf 109/ (187) **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Qe2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.Nbd2 b6N
[7...0-0 8.Nc4 Re8
A) 9.Bd2 Bd6 10.0-0-0 *(10.h4 Nf8 11.h5 Ne6 12.0-0-0 c5 13.g4 Nf4 14.Bxf4 exf4 15.g5 b5*

16.Nxd6 Qxd6 17.Rh4 Be6 18.h6 g6 19.Qd2 b4 20.Qxf4 Qxf4+ 21.Rxf4 a5 22.b3 a4 23.Kd2 axb3 24.axb3 Ra2 1-0 Zhao,J (2619)-Ma,Z (2485) CHN-chT Div-A Rapid 2022 (3.4)*)* 10...c5 11.Kb1 Nb8 12.c3 Nc6 Perez Candelario, M (2527)-Sargissian,G (2677) 109/(187) Villafranca de los Barros 2010;

B) 9.0-0 a5 10.Be3 Bf8 11.a4 c5 12.Kh1 b6 13.Rae1 Ba6 14.Nfd2 Nb8 15.g3 Nc6 16.f4 exf4 17.gxf4 f5 18.b3 Nb4 19.Qd1 Bb7 20.Bf2 Qf6 21.Ne5 fxe4 22.Nxe4 Qf5 23.Bg3 Rad8 0-1 Kazakouski,V (2524)-Georgiev, K (2546) Kuressaare Saaremaa Rapid 4th 2023 (4);

C) 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bd2 Nf8 11.0-0-0 Be6 12.Kb1 Qd7 13.Rhg1 a5 14.g4 Bxg4 15.Rg3 Ng6 16.Rdg1 Bh5 17.Qf1 Bf8 18.Ne3 Nf4 19.Nf5 g6 20.Bxf4 exf4 21.Rh3 Bxf3 22.Rxf3 8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10.g4_-Vujovic,V X Open Salou ESP 2008 Kh8 23.Qg2 Qf7 Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence (2585)-5.♗c6 dc6 6.Qe2 ♘d7 (2615) Survey 2018]

8.Nc4 The position is equal. **8...f6 9.a3 a5 10.0-0 Nf8 11.Bd2 Ne6** 0.34/19

[Black should play 11...a4!= -0.16/19]

12.g3 -0.58/17

[White should play 12.b4± 0.34/19 axb4 13.axb4 Rxa1 14.Rxa1]

12...0-0 -0.02/19

[12...a4∓ -0.58/17]

13.Kh1 -0.76/18

[13.b4= -0.02/19 Be7 14.bxa5]

13...a4∓ 14.Rg1 b5 15.Ne3 Bxe3 16.Bxe3 c5 17.Nh4 Bb7 18.f3 g6 19.Rae1 -0.65/17

[19.Qf2= -0.28/18]

19...Qd7 -0.22/18

[19...b4∓ -0.65/17 is more appropriate.]

20.Qf2= Qc6 21.g4 -0.40/18

[21.Bh6= -0.04/19]

21...Rad8 22.Rg3 c4 23.dxc4 -1.00/19

[23.Nf5!∓ -0.46/19 Qd7 *(23...gxf5 24.gxf5+* Discovered Attack (Check) *Ng5 25.h4±* Pin *)* 24.dxc4]

23...Qxc4∓

[23...bxc4 24.Bd2=]

24.Reg1 Nd4 -0.66/18 Black is more active.

[24...Ng5∓ -1.09/19 Threatens to win with ...Bb7xe4!. 25.Re1 Ne6]

25.Bxd4 Qxd4 26.Qg2 -2.32/19

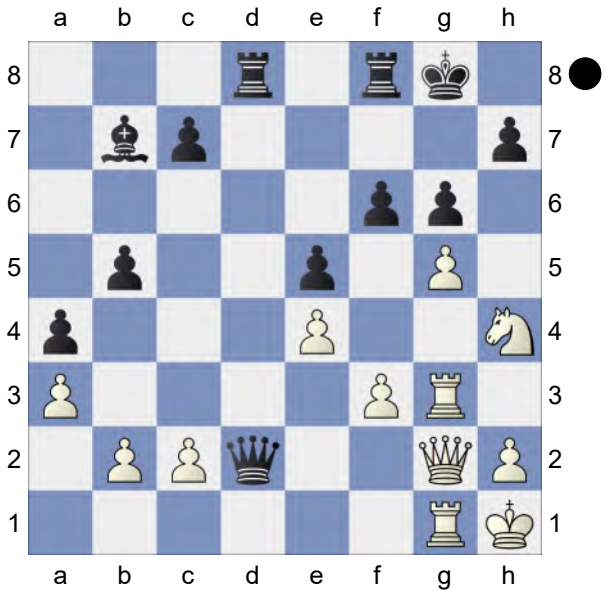
[26.Qxd4∓ -0.91/19 Rxd4 27.Ng2]

26...Qd2 -1.07/20

[26...Qxb2-+ -2.32/19 27.g5 f5 *(27...Qxa3 28.gxf6 Kf7 29.Nxg6∓)* 28.exf5 Qxa3]

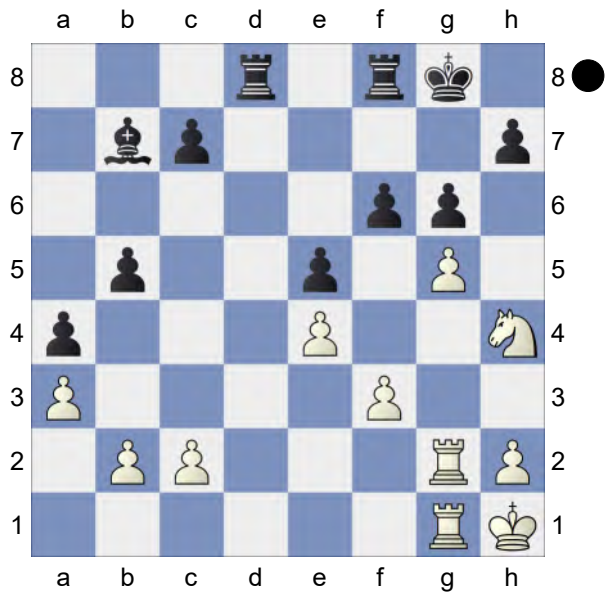
27.g5? -2.59/21

[27.Qf1∓ -1.07/20]



27...Qxg2+!-+ 28.R3xg2 -2.93/20

[⌓28.R1xg2 -1.96/20 fxg5 29.Rxg5]



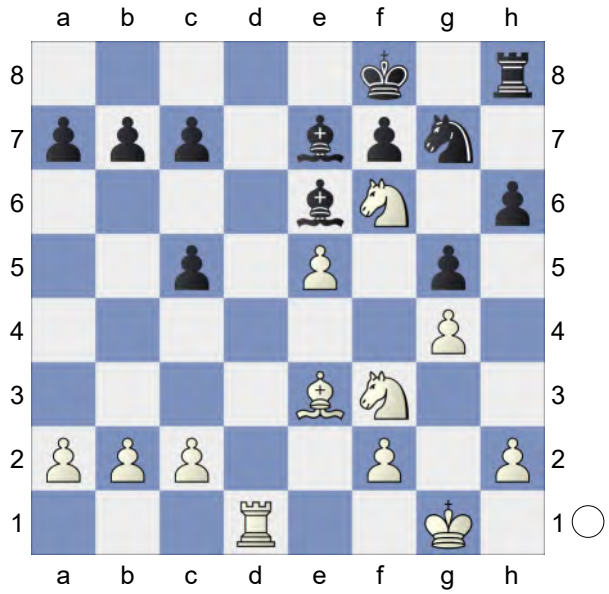
28...f5! **29.exf5** White is weak on the light squares **29...e4?** -1.12/22
[29...gxf5 30.g6 h6 31.g7∓]
[29...Rd4-+ -3.08/22 is more deadly. 30.Rg4 Rxg4 *(30...gxf5 31.Rxd4 exd4 32.Re1±)* 31.Rxg4 gxf5]
30.f6 -1.96/22
[30.fxg6? exf3 31.Rf2 Rf4 32.gxh7+ Kxh7-+]
[30.h3∓ -1.12/22]
30...exf3 **31.Rf2** **Rfe8** -0.96/22
[31...Rd5-+ -1.64/23 32.Nxf3 *(32.Rxf3? Rd4-+)* 32...Rf5]
32.Rgf1? -2.54/23
[32.Nxf3∓ -0.96/22 Re3 33.Rg3]
32...Re5 **33.Nxf3** **Rxg5** **34.h3** -2.60/24
[34.h4 -1.76/22 was worth a try. Rf5 35.Kg1]
34...Rf5 **35.Kh2** **Bxf3** Deflection
[35...Rxf6 36.Kg3-+]
36.Rxf3 Endgame KRR-KRR **36...Rd2+** **37.Kg3** **Rxf3+**
[37...Rxc2 38.Rxf5 gxf5 39.Kf4]
38.Rxf3 **Rxc2** KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **39.f7+** **Kf8** **40.Kg4** -4.88/23
[40.b3 -3.14/23 is the only way for White.]
40...h6 **41.Rf6** -5.31/22
[⌓41.b4 -3.47/24]
41...Rxb2 **42.Rc6** **Ra2**
[Not 42...Kxf7 43.Rxc7+ Kf6 44.Rd7-+]
43.Rxc7 **Rxa3** **44.Rb7** **Rb3** **45.Kf4** **a3** (→ ...a3-a2!) **46.Ke5** **Kg7**
[46...Rxh3 47.Kf6 Rf3+ 48.Kxg6=]
47.Ke6 **b4?** 0.01/22
[Stronger than 47...Rxh3 48.f8N+ Kxf8 49.Rb8+ Kg7 50.Rb7+ Kh8 51.Rb8+ Kg7 52.Rb7+ Kg8 53.Rb8+ Kg7=]
[47...g5-+ -5.89/22 48.Rb8 Re3+ Deflection *(48...Rxh3 49.f8Q+ Kh7 50.Qg8#)* 49.Kf5 Rf3+ *(49...Rxh3 50.f8Q+ Kh7 51.Qh8#; 49...Kxf7? 50.Rxb5 Rf3+ 51.Ke5-+)* 50.Ke4 Rf4+ *(50...Rxh3 51.f8Q+ Kg6 52.Qe8+ Kf6 53.Rb6+ Kg7 54.Rg6+ Kh7 55.Qg8#; 50...Rxf7? 51.Rxb5 Rf4+ 52.Ke3-+)* 51.Kd3 Kxf7 *(51...Rxf7? 52.Rxb5 Rf3+ 53.Kd4-+)* 52.Rxb5 Rf3+ 53.Ke4 Rxh3]
48.h4? -17.13/22
[48.f8B+= 0.01/22 Kxf8 49.Rb8+ Kg7 50.Rb7+ Kh8 51.Rb8+ Kg7]
48...Re3+ Black is clearly winning.
49.Kd6 **a2** **50.Ra7** **b3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.37
0-1

108 **C67**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2721**
■ **Giri,Anish** **2746**
Sinquefield Cup 11th (7) 26.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4** **e5** **2.Nf3** **Nc6** **3.Bb5** **Nf6** **4.0-0** **Nxe4** **5.d4** **Nd6** **6.Bxc6** **dxc6** **7.dxe5** **Nf5** **8.Qxd8+** **Kxd8** **9.Nc3** **Be7**

The position is equal.

[9...Ke8 10.Bf4 h6 11.Rad1 g5 0.33/23 *(11...Be6=* -0.01/21 deserves consideration.*)* 12.Bc1± Be7 13.Ne4 Kf8 0.80/22 *(13...g4!±* 0.41/23 *14.Nd4 Nxd4 15.Rxd4 h5)* 14.Rfe1 0.26/22 *(14.g4±* 0.80/22 *)* 14...Be6 0.63/23 *(14...g4=* 0.26/22 *15.Nfd2 Be6)* 15.Nf6 Rd8 16.g4 Ng7 0.78/21 *(16...Rxd1±* 0.39/24 *17.Rxd1 Nd6)* 17.Be3 0.24/24 *(17.Rxd8+±* 0.78/21 *Bxd8 18.h3)* 17...Rxd1= 18.Rxd1 c5 1.27/21 *(18...Ne8=* 0.26/25 *)*



Inhibits Nd4. 19.h3 0.79/20 ;1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2732)-Giri,A (2762) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Feb Early blitz 2024 (7) *(* Better is *19.Bxc5!* 1.27/21 Black must now prevent Rd8+. *Bxc5 20.Rd8+ Ne8 21.Rxe8+ Kg7 22.Rxh8 Kxh8 23.a3)*]

10.h3 10.Bf4 is the modern continuation. 10.Lf4 ist die moderne Fortsetzung.

10...Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4 12.Re1

[12.Be3 h5 13.Rad1+ Ke8 14.Ne2 *(14.Ne4 Bf5 15.Ng5 Rf8 16.Rd4 Bxg5 17.Bxg5 f6 18.exf6 gxf6 19.Bh4 Kf7 20.Rf4 Kg6 21.Re1 Bxc2 22.Re6 Bf5 23.Re3 Bb1 24.Rg3+ Kh7 25.Bxf6 Rf7 26.Rg5 Kh6 27.Be5 Raf8 28.Rxf7 Rxf7* Anton Guijarro,D (2679)-Giri,A (2764) Wijk aan Zee 2021 Chess Informant 147 [Bozic,Vitomir] ½-½ (60) *)* 14...Be7 15.Rfe1 a6 16.Bf4 g5 17.Be3 Bf5 18.Nd4 Bg6 19.e6 Rd8 20.exf7+ Kxf7 21.Nf3 Bxc2 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Nxg5+ Kf6 24.Ne6 Rd1 25.Bg5+ Kf7 26.Rxd1 Bxd1 Vachier Lagrave,M (2788)-Eljanov,P (2765) Stavanger 2016 CBM 172 [ChessBase] ½-½ (52)]

12...a5N

[12...h5 13.Ne2 Be7 14.Bd2 Ke8 15.a4 a6 16.Bc3 Kf8 17.Rad1 Rh6 18.Bd2 Rh8 19.Bf4 g5 20.Bh2 Rh6 21.e6 Bxe6 22.Bxc7 Rc8 23.Bd6 Bxd6 24.Rxd6 Ke7 25.Rd3 Rf6 26.Ng3 Rf4 27.Ne4 Mcshane,L (2653)-Van Foreest,L (2568) Hoogeveen 2022 1-0 (42)]

[12...h6 13.Ne2 Bf5 14.c3 c5 15.Nf4 Re8 16.Nh5 Rg8 17.g3 Be7 18.g4 Bd7 19.Nf4 a5 20.e6 fxe6 21.Nxe6+ Bxe6 22.Rxe6 Kd7 23.Re2 Bd6 24.Bd2 b5 25.f4 c4 26.Kg2 Raf8 27.Rf1 Emmenecker,P (2081)-Falkowski,D (2311) Dublin 2023 Schlechter-Tarrasch [John Watson] ½-½ (62)]

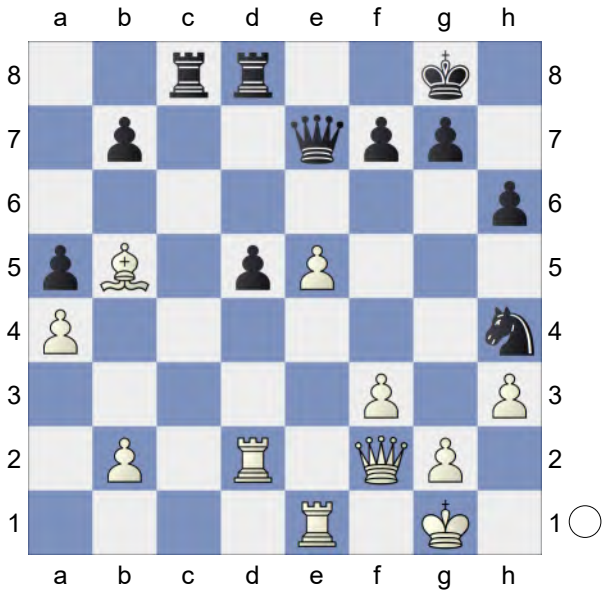
13.Be3N

[Vorgänger: 13.Ne2 Bd7 14.Bd2 Kc8 15.Bc3 Re8 16.Rad1 -0.34/20 *(16.Nf4=* -0.03/25 was preferrable.*)* 16...g6∓ 17.Nf4 Bg5 0.00/32 *(17...Bf5∓* -0.48/24 is superior.*)* 18.e6= Bxe6 19.Nxe6 Rxe6 20.Rxe6 fxe6 ½-½ Vachier Lagrave,M (2775)-Grischuk,A (2766) Riga FIDE GP 2019 (3.1)]

13...Be7 14.Rad1+ Ke8 15.Ne2 a4 16.Nd4 Ra5 17.e6 Bd6 Against Bf4 **18.exf7+ Kxf7 19.Nf3 Re8 20.Bd4 Rxe1+ 21.Rxe1 Rf5 22.b3 axb3 23.axb3 c5 24.Ne5+ Kg8 25.Bb2 Rf8 26.Nc4 Bf5 27.Nxd6 cxd6= KRB-KRB 28.Re7 Rf7 29.Re8+ Rf8 30.Re7 Rf7 31.Re8+ Rf8 32.Re7 Rf7** An uneventful encounter. Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

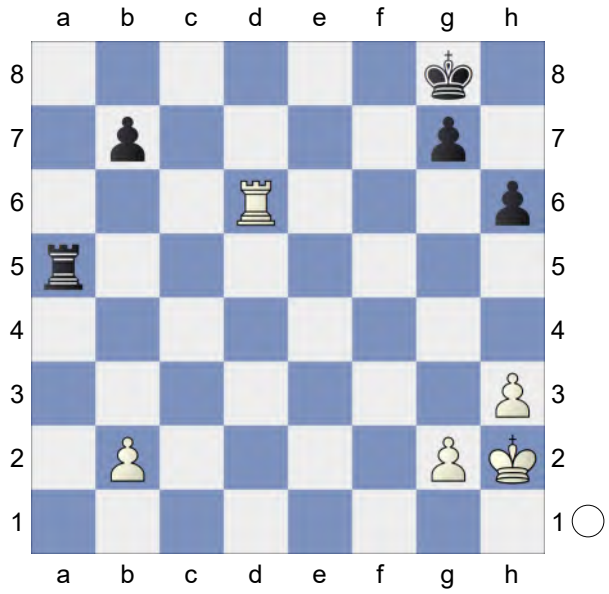
109 **C65**
□ **Shankland,Samuel L** **2677**
■ **So,Wesley** **2751**
ch-2024 Saint Louis USA (3.5) 13.10.24
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 d6 6.c3 0-0 7.h3 Bb6 8.0-0 Ne7 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.a4N**
[12.Re1 Bf5 13.Qb3 c5 14.dxc5 Bxc5 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Ng5 Qd4 17.Be3 Qxe5 18.Bxc5 Qxc5 19.Bc4 Bg6 20.Nxe4 Bxe4 21.Rxe4 Nf5 22.Rc1 Kh8 23.Ree1 Rac8 24.Rc3 Nd4 25.Qxb7 Rb8 26.Qe7 Qxe7 Sahidi,S (2505)-Pechac,J (2611) Teplice 2023 1-0 (37)]
[12.Bd3 Bf5 13.Qe2 Nc6 14.Nxe4 *(14.Rd1 Bxd4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Bxe4 Bxe4 17.Nxd4 Qd5* 28 Chapter-Game Game*; 14.Nb3 f6 15.Be3 Qd7 16.Rac1* Svidler,P (2752) -L'Ami,E (2648) Warszawa 120/(114) 2013 [Atalik,Suat]*)* 14...dxe4 15.Bxe4 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 Bxe4 17.Qxe4 Qxd4 18.Qxb7 Qxe5 Areshchenko,A (2709)-Kramnik,V (2784) Tromso (m/2) 120/(114) 2013 Cl1-130 [Atalik,Suat]]
12...a5 13.Re1 Bf5 14.Ra3 -0.09/21
[14.Nxe4 0.27/21 deserves consideration. dxe4 15.Nh4]
14...c5 0.24/21
[14...Nc6 -0.09/21 is more appropriate.]
15.Nxe4= Bxe4 0.57/20
[15...dxe4= 0.24/23 16.Nd2 Qxd4]
16.Bg5 0.12/23
[16.Ng5± 0.57/20]
16...h6 17.Bh4 cxd4 18.Nxd4 Qc7 0.51/25
[18...Bc5= 0.06/23]
19.f3!± Bc2 20.Qd2 Bxd4+ 0.97/23
[20...Nf5± 0.49/23 21.Bf2 Nxd4 22.Bxd4 Bxd4+ 23.Qxd4 Rac8]
21.Qxd4± aiming for Rc3. **21...Nf5 22.Qf2** Rc3 is the strong threat. &Bianco is more active. **22...Nxh4 23.Rc3 Qe7** Strongly threatening ...Bh7.
[23...Nxf3+? 24.gxf3 Qe7 25.Rxc2+-]
24.Rxc2 Rac8 25.Rd2 Rfd8



26.f4! Qc5 27.e6 fxe6 28.Rxe6 Rf8 29.Kh2 Qb4 30.Rd4 0.72/26

[⌓30.Rxd5 1.12/25 Rxf4 31.Qd2]
30...Rc2 31.Re2 Rxe2 32.Bxe2 Qb6 33.Bg4 Nf5 34.Bxf5 Rxf5± Endgame KQR-KQR **35.Qd2 Qd6** 0.88/24
[35...Qc7± 0.42/22]
36.Qxa5± Rxf4 37.Rxd5 Rxa4+ 38.Rxd6 Qd5+ would kill now. **38...Rxa5**



KR-KR **39.Rb6** Against Rb5 **39...Rd5 40.Rxb7 Rd2 41.h4** 0.65/26
[41.b4± 1.08/25]
41...h5 42.Kg3 Rd4! 43.Rb5 Rg4+ 44.Kh3! Rd4 45.b3 Rd3+ 46.Kh2 Rd4 47.Kg3 Rd3+ 48.Kf4 Rd4+! 49.Kg3 Rd3+! 50.Kf2! Rd4 51.g3 Rd3 52.b4 And now Rg5 would win. **52...Rb3 53.Ke2** 0.01/28
[53.Rb8+± 0.55/29 Kf7 54.Rb6]
53...Kf7 0.55/26
[Black should try 53...Rxg3= 0.01/28 54.Rxh5 Rg4]
54.Kd2 0.00/27
[54.Rf5+± 0.55/26 Ke6 55.Rxh5]
54...Ke6 0.54/26
[54...g6= 0.00/27]
55.Kc2 0.17/28
[55.Rg5± 0.54/26 Rxb4 56.Ke3 *(56.Rxh5 Rg4=; 56.Rxg7 Rb5±)*]
55...Rxg3= 56.Rxh5 Hoping for Rg5. **56...Rh3 57.b5 Kd6** The position is equal. **58.Kd2 g6 59.Rh6 Kc5 60.Ke2 Kxb5 61.Kf2 Kc6 62.Kg2 Ra3 63.h5 Kd6 64.Rxg6+ Ke7 65.h6** Black must now prevent h7. **65...Ra2+ 66.Kh3 Ra3+ 67.Rg3 Rxg3+ 68.Kxg3** Intending h7 and mate. **68...Kf7 69.h7 Kg7 70.h8B+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

110 **C67**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2721**
■ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2748**
Saint Louis Rapid (9) 14.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

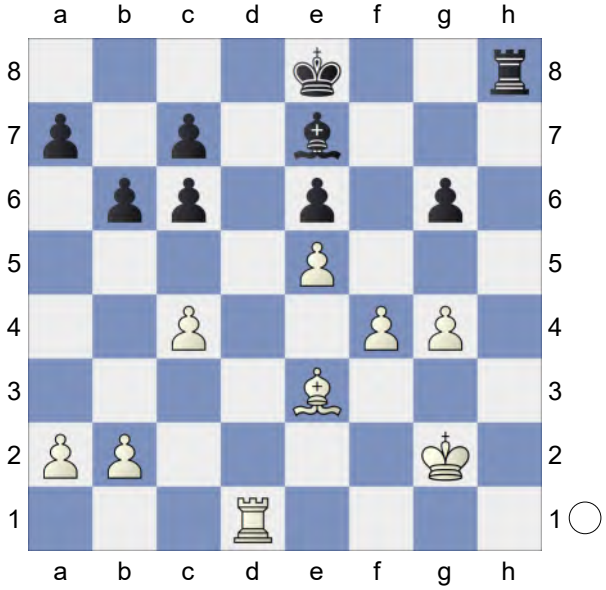
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.Bf4 Be7 11.g4!?** Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **11...Nh4 12.Nxh4** White is slightly better. **12...Bxh4 13.h3 h5N**
[Vorgänger: 13...Be6 14.Kg2 Be7 15.a3 Rd8 16.Rad1 h5 17.f3 Rd7 18.Bg3 c5 19.Rf2 -0.19/24 *(⌓19.Bf4 0.15/25)* 19...hxg4 20.hxg4 Rxd1 21.Nxd1 ½-½ Navara,D (2708)-Miton,K (2616) CZE-chT 1011 2010 (3.1)]
14.f3 Be6 15.Kg2 Be7 16.Rfd1 Rd8 17.Ne2 Rd5N
[17...h4 18.Nd4 g5 19.Be3 Rd5 20.Nf5 Rg8 21.Rxd5 cxd5 22.Bxa7 b6 23.a4 Bc5 24.a5 Bxf5 25.gxf5 Kd7 26.axb6 cxb6 27.b4 Bxb4 28.Bxb6 Bc3 29.Ra7+ Kc6 30.Rc7+ Kxb6 31.Rxc3 Re8 32.Re3

Ruus,R (1909)-6.c4 ♘f6 7. ♘5c3 e6_52508 (1591) Deutschland 84/(121) 2023 The Week in Chess 404 [John Watson] 1-0 (46)]

18.Nd4 hxg4 19.hxg4 Bc5 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.c4 Rxd1 0.79/24

[21...Rd4= 0.19/26 22.Rxd4 Bxd4]

22.Rxd1= Endgame KRB-KRB **22...Be7 23.Be3 b6 24.f4** &Bianco is more active. **24...g6**



25.a4 0.31/24

[25.c5!± 1.35/21]

25...a6!± 26.Rh1 Rxh1 27.Kxh1= KB-KB **27...b5 28.b3 Bb4 29.Kg2 Bc3 30.Kf3 g5 31.f5 exf5 32.gxf5 Bxe5 33.Bxg5 bxc4 34.bxc4 Kf7 35.Ke4 Bd6** 0.55/43

[Better is 35...Ba1= 0.00/52]

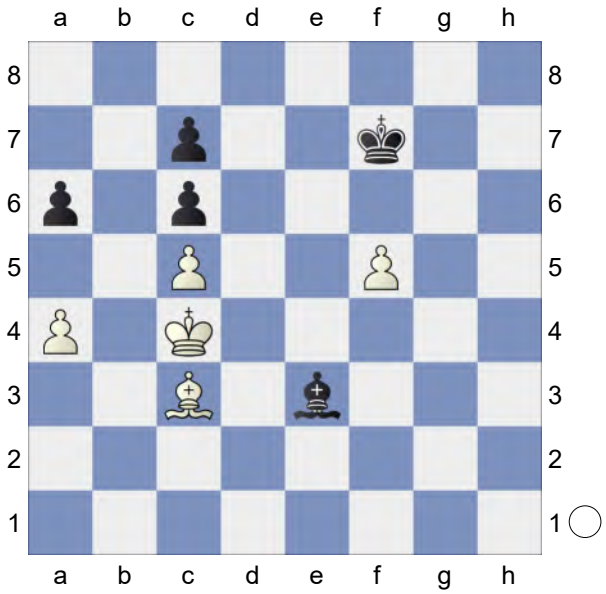
36.Bd8 0.17/43

[36.Be3± 0.55/43 is superior.]

36...Bg3 37.Bg5! Bd6 38.Be3 Kf6 39.Bd4+ Kf7 40.c5 Bg3 41.Kd3 Be1 42.Bc3 Bf2 43.Kc4 Be3? 6.91/19

[43...Ke7± 0.70/43 44.Kb4 Kd8]

(Diagram)



A mistake that costs the game. **44.Kb4!+-** White is clearly winning. **44...Bf2 45.Ka5 Bxc5 46.Kxa6 Be3 47.a5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.32

1-0

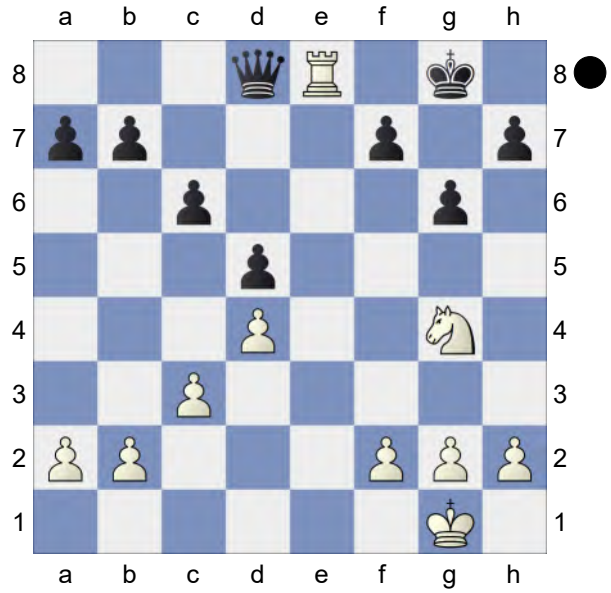
111	**C67**
☐ **Liang,Awonder**	**2677**
■ **Niemann,Hans Moke**	**2733**
USA-ch Saint Louis (2)	12.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1** The position is equal. **10...Re8 11.c3** 11.Bf4 is more advanced technology. 11.Lf4 ist hochmodern. **11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Bf4 d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Qe2 c6 17.Re1 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nf3 Ng7 20.Be5** Hoping for Bxf6. **20...Ne6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5** Nf6+ is the strong threat. **24...Ng7 25.Qxe8+**

[Wrong is 25.Nh6+? Kf8 26.Nxf7 Rxe5-+]

25...Nxe8 26.Rxe8+



Remove Defender **26...Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxe8 Kxe8=** Endgame KP-KP **29.f4 f5 30.Kf2 Kf7N**

[30...b5 31.b4 Kf7 32.h3 h6 33.h4 h5 Chapter Game8-Games Game 1 (33)]

31.Ke3 Ke6 32.Kd3N

[32.b4 b5 33.Kf3 Kf6 34.Ke3 a6 35.a3 Ke6 36.Kf3 Kf6 37.Ke3 Ke6 38.Kf3 Kf6 39.Ke3 ½-½ Tabatabaei,M (2629)-Maghsoodloo,P (2676) PNWCC Super Rising Stars 2020 (6)]

32...Kd6 33.Ke3 Ke6 34.Kd3 Kd6 35.Ke3 Ke6 A balanced but interesting game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.01 (flawless)

½-½

112 **C65**

□ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2687**

■ **Sjugirov,Sanan** **2643**

Chessable Masters Play In blitz (9)

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc4 The position is equal. **8...Re8 9.a4 a5** 9...a5 scores better than 9...f6. 9...a5 punktet besser als 9...f6. **10.Kh1 b6 11.b3N**

[11.g3 Nf8 12.Ncxe5 f6 13.d4 Bd6 14.Nxc6 Qd7 15.d5 Rxe4 16.Nd2 Re8 17.Nc4 Ba6 18.b3 Bxc4 19.bxc4 Ng6 20.Nd4 Ne5 21.f4 c5 22.Nb5 Nf7 23.Qd3 Bf8 24.Bd2 Nd6 25.Nc3 Qh3 1-0 Caruana,F (2736)-Iturrizaga Bonelli,E (2649) Moscow Aeroflot op-A 11th 2012 (3)]

[11.Be3 Bb4 *(11...Bf8 12.b3 c5 13.Rg1 Qf6 14.g4 Qe6 15.Qf1 Bd6 16.Nh4 Nb8 17.Nf5 Nc6 18.Nfxd6 cxd6 19.Nxb6 Rb8 20.Nd5 Qg6 21.f4 exf4 22.Qxf4 Nb4 23.Nxb4 axb4 24.h4 Bb7 25.h5 Qe6 26.Kh2* ½-½ Grischuk,A (2689)-Potkin,V (2555) Moscow New Year Blitz 2024 (2) *)* 12.Nfd2 b5 13.axb5 cxb5 14.c3 bxc4 15.cxb4 cxd3 16.bxa5 Ba6 17.Qb3 Nf6 18.h3 Nh5 19.Rfc1 Nf4 20.Rc6 Ne2 21.Qd5 Qb8 22.Rxa6 Rxa6 23.Qxd3 Qxb2 24.Rb1 Rd6 25.Qxe2 Qa2 ½-½ Anand,V (2774)-Kasparov,G (2817) ARM-ROW m Moscow 2004 (6)]

[11.h3 f6 12.Nh4 Nf8 13.Be3 Bxe3 14.fxe3 Be6 15.Nd2 c5 16.b3 Nd7 17.Rf2 g6 18.Qg1 Qe7 19.g4 Kh8 20.Qg3 Rf8 21.Raf1 Rf7 22.Kh2

Raf8 23.Rg2 Rg8 24.Nb1 Rff8 25.Rgf2 Rf7 0-1 Durarbayli,V (2628)-Martirosyan,H (2666) Tashkent President op 2nd 2022 (9)]

11...f6 12.Be3 Bb4 13.g4N -0.68/18
[13.Nh4 -0.51/18 13.Be3-d2 -0.09 Nf8 -0.11/20 *(13...b5∓ -0.51/18* was preferable. *14.axb5 cxb5)* 14.Nf5 Ne6 15.Qg4 g6 16.Qg3 Bc3 17.Rad1 Kh8 -0.13/20 *(17...b5∓ -0.51/20)* 18.Nh6= Qe7 Inhibits Nh6-f7+. 19.Qh4 -0.66/17 ;1-0 Caruana,F (2835)-Ding,L (2791) Carlsen Inv Prelim rapid 2020 (2.4) *(19.f4= -0.13/18 exf4 20.Bxf4 Nxf4 21.Qxf4)*]
[13.Bd2= -0.06/19]

13...b5 14.Ncd2 Nf8 15.Rg1 Ng6 16.Qf1 Be6 17.Qh3 -1.04/19
[17.Qg2∓ -0.60/18]

17...Qd7 -0.48/17
[17...Nf4!∓ -1.04/19 18.Qf1 Bc3]

18.Nh4∓ Nf4 -0.16/20
[18...Bc3∓ -0.62/19 19.Nf5 Bxa1 20.Rxa1 Rf8]

19.Bxf4 -0.77/18
[19.Qf3!= -0.16/20]

19...exf4∓ 20.Ndf3 White is weak on the dark squares **20...Bc3 21.Rac1** -1.09/20
[21.Rad1∓ -0.48/19]

21...bxa4 22.bxa4 Rab8 -0.44/19
[22...c5∓ -1.07/21 23.Rb1 c4 *(23...Qxa4? 24.Ng2-+)*]

23.Nf5∓ h6 -0.04/20
[23...c5∓ -0.66/19 24.g5 Bxf5 *(24...Qxa4 25.gxf6 Bxf6 26.Ng5±)* 25.exf5 *(25.Qxf5 Qxf5 26.exf5 Re2∓)* 25...Rb6 *(25...Qxa4 26.gxf6 Bxf6 27.Ng5∓)*]

24.N3h4!= Rb2 25.d4 -1.40/20 **Bb4** -0.26/21
[25...Bxd4∓ -1.40/20 26.Rgd1 c5]

26.Qf3 -0.70/19
[26.Qd3= -0.26/21]

26...Bf8 0.30/17
[26...Bd2 27.Rcd1 Bb4 *(27...Rxc2? 28.Qd3+-)* 28.Qd3∓]
[26...Bc4∓ -0.70/19 27.Ng2 Qe6]

27.c3? -1.71/19
[27.Qxf4 g5 28.Qg3 gxh4 29.Qxh4 Kh7 30.Qxf6 Qd8 31.Qxd8 *(31.Qe5? Bd5-+)* 31...Rxd8-+]
[27.Ng6= 0.30/17 and White stays safe.]

27...Bf7!-+ 28.Rce1 -1.88/21
[28.Ng2∓ -1.34/18]

28...g6 -0.82/19
[28...c5-+ -1.88/21 29.Ng2 g5 *(29...Qxa4? 30.Nxf4 cxd4 31.cxd4∓)* 30.Nxf4 gxf4 31.Qxf4 Kh7 *(31...Qxa4? 32.g5+-)*]

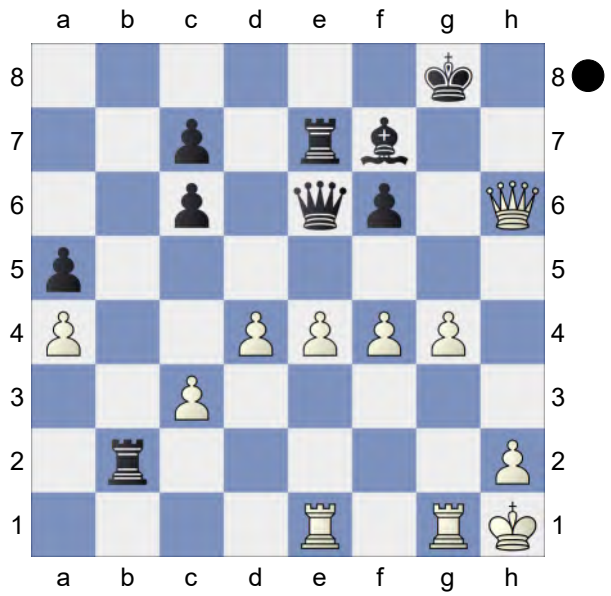
29.Qxf4∓ g5!↑ White is under strong pressure.
[29...gxf5 30.gxf5+ Kh7 31.Qg3=]

30.Qg3 gxh4 31.Qxh4 Qe6 -0.01/20
[31...Bg6!∓ -1.26/19 Hoping for ...Qd7-f7. 32.Qxf6 Re6]

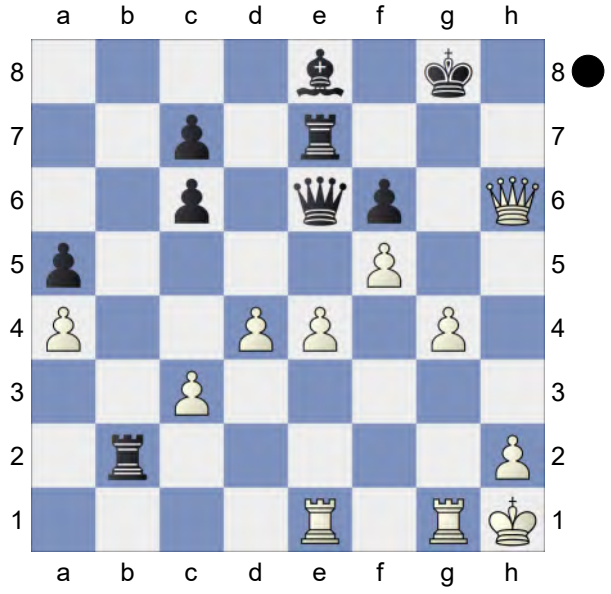
32.Nxh6+= Bxh6 33.Qxh6 g4-g5 is the strong threat. **33...Re7?** 0.46/23
[33...Rxf2? 34.g5+-]
[Black should play 33...Qd5!∓ -1.15/22 34.Qf4 *(34.exd5 Bxd5+; 34.Qxf6 Rxe4 35.f3 Rxe1∓)* 34...Qg5]

34.f4? -1.67/21
[34.f3± 0.46/23]

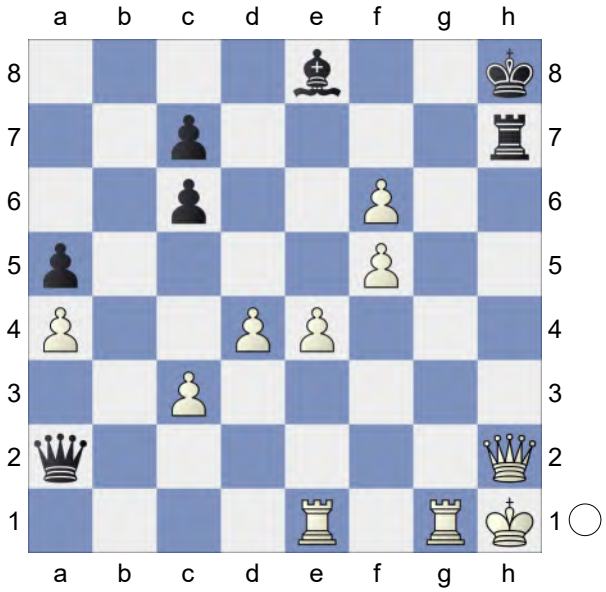
(Diagram)



34...Be8!-+ 35.f5? -4.13/22
[35.g5 -2.35/20 was necessary. f5 36.Qxe6+ Remove Defender Rxe6 37.e5 *(37.exf5? Bh5-+)*]

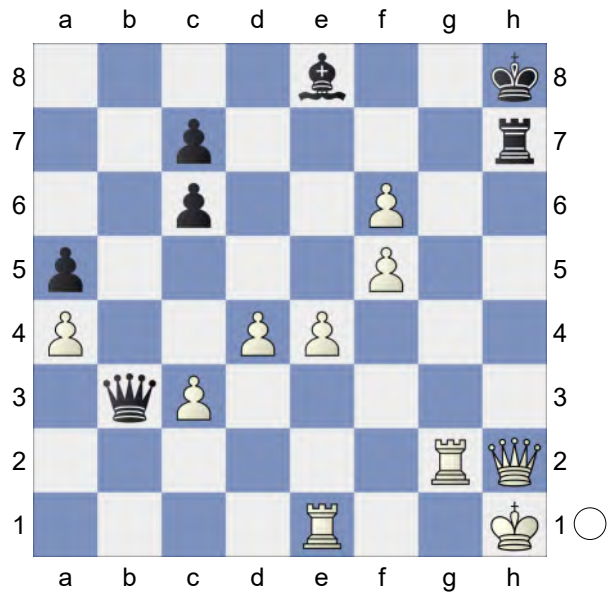


35...Qa2?? 4.70/25
[35...Qd6!-+ -4.13/22 and all is fine. 36.Rb1 *(36.g5? Rh7-+)* 36...Rh7 *(36...Rxb1? 37.Rxb1 Rxe4 38.Rb8-+)* 37.Qxh7+ Kxh7 38.Rxb2 Qf4]
36.g5 2.25/20
[36.Qxf6? Rxh2#]
[⌓36.Ra1 4.70/25 Qc4 37.g5 *(37.Qxf6 Rxh2+* Decoy *38.Kxh2 Rh7+)* 37...Rxh2+ 38.Kxh2]
36...Rxh2+ 7.13/5
[36...Rh7 2.25/20 37.gxf6+ *(37.Qxf6? Rhxh2#)* 37...Rg2 38.Qxh7+ *(38.Rxg2+ Qxg2+ 39.Kxg2 Rxh6+-; 38.e5 Rxh6 39.Rxg2+ Qxg2+ 40.Kxg2 Rh5±)* 38...Kxh7 39.Rxg2 Qb3]
37.Qxh2+- Rh7 38.gxf6+ Kh8



39.Rg2! Qb3
[39...Qf7 40.Re3]

(Diagram)



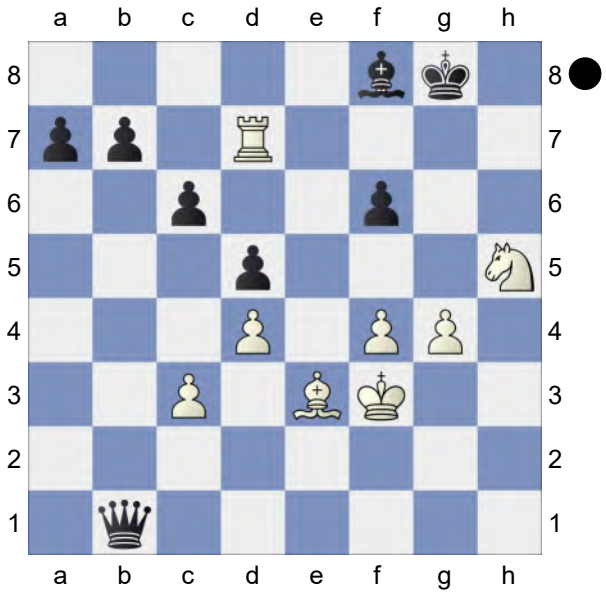
40.Reg1! Rh5
[40...Qf7 41.Qxh7+]
41.Qxh5+ 8.16/5
[⌓41.d5 #7/16 Qd1 42.Rxd1 Rxh2+ 43.Kxh2 *(43.Rxh2+ Kg8 44.Rg1+ Kf7 45.e5 cxd5 46.Rg7+* Skewer *Kf8 47.Rh8#)* 43...Bh5 44.Rd3 Kh7 45.Rh3 *(45.dxc6 Kh6 46.Rh3 Kh7 47.Rxh5#; 45.Rg7+ Kh6 46.Rh3 cxd5 47.Rg6+* Deflection *Kh7 48.Rxh5#)* 45...Kh6 46.Rg6+ Deflection Kh7 47.Rxh5#]
41...Bxh5 42.Rh2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.70/Black=0.91
1-0

113 **C67**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2733**
■ **So,Wesley** **2757**
CrunchLab Masters Div 1 W rapid (1.3)
[Kitty Kat]

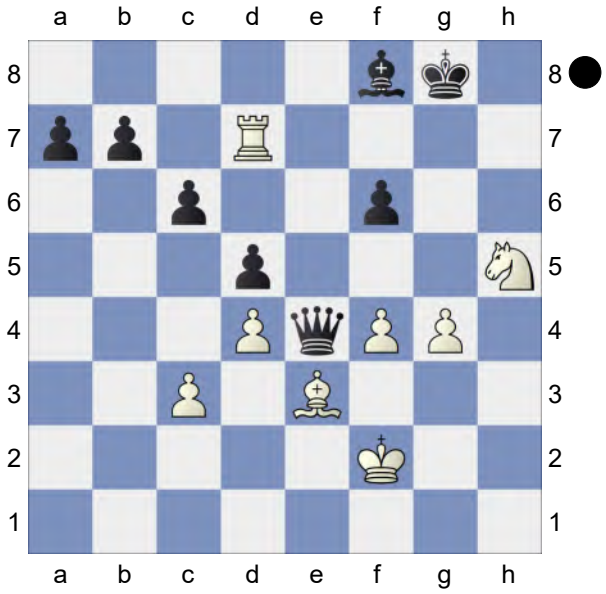
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Neil McDonald: 'Here the victim is a black knight – the poor nag is evicted from its nice stable in the centre, driven to a backwater and then used as a target to force open lines against its king. White used the Moscow Variation to establish a Maroczy Bind against Black's Hedgehog Centre: ' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 d5 9.d4 0-0** The position is equal. **10.c3 Re8 11.Bd3 Bd6 12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Nbd2** 13.Qc2 is vanishing. 13.Dc2 scheint zu verschwinden. **13...f6N** 13...Nce7 gains popularity. 13...Sce7 wird beliebter.
[13...Bd7 14.Nf1 f6 15.Qc2 g6 16.Qb3 Nce7 17.c4 dxc4 18.Bxc4+ Kg7 19.g4 Nh6 20.g5 fxg5 21.Nxg5 Nhf5 22.d5 Nd4 23.Qd3 Nef5 24.Bd2 b5 25.Re1 Qf8 26.Bb3 b4 27.Ng3 Nxb3 28.Qxb3 6 Chapter-Games Game]
[13...Nce7 14.Nf1 c6 15.Qc2 f6 16.Bd2 g6 17.Re1 Ng7 18.c4 Bg4 19.c5 Bc7 20.Nh4 Qd7 21.Bh6 Re8 22.Bd2 Kf7 23.Ne3 Be6 24.g3 Bh3 25.Bc3 g5 26.Nf3 Nef5 27.Nxf5 Rxe1+ 28.Nxe1 Bacrot,E (2653)-So,W (2766) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (42) Nxf5 29.Bf1 Bxf1 30.Kxf1 Qe6 31.Qe2 Qe4 32.Qxe4 dxe4 33.Ke2 Ke6 34.Ng2 Kd5 35.h3 Nxd4+ 36.Ke3 Be5 37.g4 Ne6 38.Kd2 Bxc3+ 39.Kxc3 Nxc5 40.Ne3+ Ke5 41.Kc4 Nd3 42.b4 Nxf2 1-0 (42) Bacrot,E (2715)-Morozevich,A (2675) Biel 2017 [Arsovic,Goran]]
14.Qc2 g6 15.Nf1 Qf7 16.Bd2 Nce7 17.Re1 c6 18.Qc1N
[Vorgänger: 18.a4 Ng7 19.Ne3 Bd7 0.31/28 *(19...Ngf5=* 0.00/26 *)* 20.h3± Re8 21.Ng4 Nef5 22.Rxe8+ Bxe8 23.Bxf5 Nxf5 24.Nh4! ½-½ Saric,I (2690)-So,W (2757) Zagreb Superbet Blitz 2024 (8)]
18...g5 Inhibits Bf4. **19.h3 Bd7**

20.N3h2 h5 0.52/28
[20...Rf8= 0.08/28]
21.f4!± g4 22.hxg4 hxg4 23.Nxg4 0.05/24
[23.Qd1!± 0.48/26]
23...Qg7!↑ Black is more active. **24.Nge3 Kf7 25.Re2 Rh8** Strongly threatening ...Ng3. **26.Kf2** -0.64/23 Inhibits Ng3.
[26.Nxf5= -0.18/26 Nxf5 27.g3]
26...Rh1 -0.14/31 &Nero is much more active.
[26...Rh4∓ -0.64/23]
27.Nxf5 Nxf5 The board is on fire. **28.Bxf5 Bxf5 29.Ng3 Rxc1 30.Nxf5 Qf8 31.Bxc1 Qd8 32.g4** -0.74/28
[32.Nh6+!= -0.14/27 keeps the balance. Kg7 33.Nf5+ Kg6 34.g4]
32...Bf8 33.Kf3 -1.27/30
[Better is 33.Nh4∓ -0.67/26]
33...Qa5∓ 34.Rh2 -2.52/23
[34.a3∓ -1.31/24 was the only chance.]
34...Qxa2-+ 35.Rh7+ Kg8 36.Rd7
[Don't blunder 36.Rxb7? Qa6 37.Rb8 Qf1+ 38.Ke3 Qxc1+-+]
36...Qb1 Black has a decisive advantage. **37.Be3 Qxb2 38.Ng3 Qb1**
[38...Qxc3 39.Nh5 Bb4 40.Nxf6+ Kf8 41.Nh7+ Kg8 42.Nf6+ Kf8 43.Nh7+ Kg8 44.Nf6+=]
39.Nh5

(Diagram)



Qe4+! 40.Kf2



Be7! Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
[Worse is 40...Qc2+ 41.Kg3 Bh6 42.Nxf6+ Kf8 43.Nh7+ Kg8 44.Nf6+ Kf8 45.Nh7+ Kg8 46.Nf6+=]
0-1

114 **C67**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2744**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2708**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.9)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Bd7 10.Rd1 Be7** The main line 10...Be7 scores better than 10...Kc8. Die Hauptvariante 10...Le7 punktet besser als 10...Kc8. **11.g4 Nh4** The position is equal. **12.Nxh4 Bxh4 13.Nd2 Kc8 14.Nf3 Be7 15.Bg5** 15.Rd3 is vanishing. 15.Td3 scheint zu verschwinden. **15...Bc5 16.Rd3** aiming for Rad1. **16...Be6 17.Re1N** 'N!' A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 17.Kg2 b5 18.Be3 Bb6 19.Kg3 Kb7 20.a4 h6 0.52/18 *(20...Bc4=* 0.16/20 might be stronger. *)* 21.Nd4!± Bxd4 22.Bxd4 h5 23.a5 ½-½ Dominguez Perez,L (2747)-Robson,R (2690) USA-ch Saint Louis 2022 (3)]

[17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Rxe3 Kd7 19.Nd4 *(19.Rd1+ Ke7 20.Nd4 Rad8 21.Red3 g6 22.Nxe6 Rxd3 23.Rxd3 Kxe6* 29 Chapter-Games Game*)* 19...h5 20.Rd1 Ke7 21.Nf5+ Kf8 22.Red3 Re8 23.Rd8 g6 24.Ne3 hxg4 25.hxg4 Kg7 26.Rxe8 Rxe8 27.f4 Vachier Lagrave,M (2749)-Grischuk,A (2778) Zagreb (blitz) 149/(113) 2021 Chess Informant 149 [Milanovic,Danilo]]

17...h5 18.a3 -0.60/21

[18.Nd4= -0.01/18]

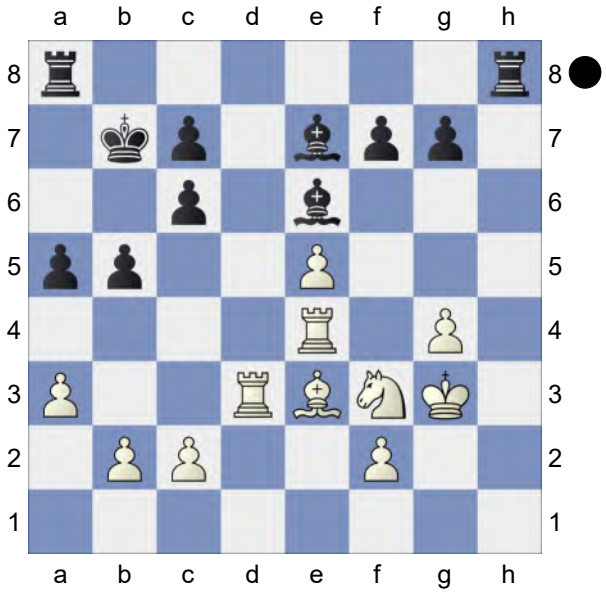
18...hxg4∓ 19.hxg4 And now b4 would win. **19...a5** Inhibits b4.

[19...Bxg4 20.b4±]

20.Re4 b5! 21.Be3 -0.86/22

[21.Kg2∓ -0.41/20 should be considered.]

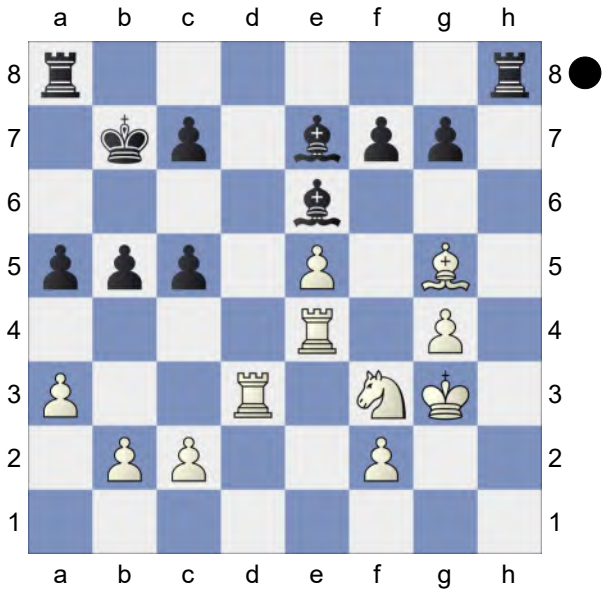
21...Be7!∓ 22.Kg2 Kb7 23.Kg3



c5 -0.01/22

[23...Rh1!∓ -0.87/20 ...Rb1 is the strong threat. 24.Bd2 Rb1]

24.Bg5=

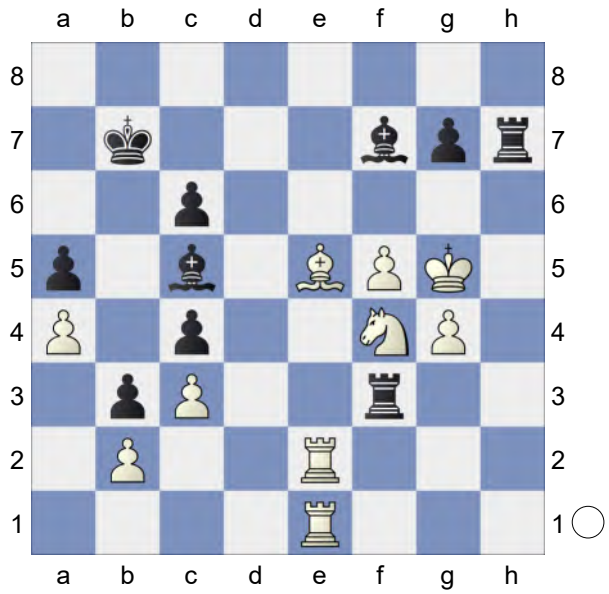


c4! 25.Rd1 Bc5 26.c3 c6 27.Nh4

[27.Be3!? Be7 28.Bg5=]

27...Rh7 28.f4 Bd5 A strong pair of Bishops. **29.Re2 b4 30.a4 Re8** Threatens to win with ...f6! **31.f5** -1.71/22

[31.Rde1∓ -0.39/21]
31...f6!-+ 32.Bf4 fxe5? -0.01/24
[Better is 32...Reh8-+ -1.81/22 33.Rh2 fxe5 34.Bxe5 Be7]
33.Bxe5= Reh8 34.Ng6 Active counter play! **34...Rh3+ 35.Kf4 Rf3+** 0.48/5
[35...R8h7= 0.01/20]
36.Kg5± Rh7 1.79/20
[36...Be3+± 0.56/21 37.Bf4 *(37.Rxe3 Rxe3 38.Bf4 Rhh3±)* 37...Rhh3]
37.Rde1 0.35/22
[37.Bd4+- 1.79/20 Bd6 38.Rde1]
37...b3 1.31/22
[37...Rfh3± 0.35/22]
38.Nf4 0.64/21
[White should play 38.Bf4± 1.31/22]
38...Bf7? 3.89/26
[38...Bf2± 0.64/21]



39.Bd4!+-
[Weaker is 39.Ng6 Rf2±]
39...Bxd4 5.45/23
[39...Kb6 2.51/23 40.Rd1 Bxd4 41.Rxd4 Rh8]
40.Re7+ Kb6 41.cxd4 Dancing on a razor blade. **41...Bg8 42.Rd7?** 0.01/23
[42.Ng6+- 5.18/20 c5 43.Nf8]
42...c3? #8/18
[42...Rxf4= 0.01/23 43.Re8 *(43.Kxf4?* is the wrong capture. *g5+ 44.Kxg5 Rxd7-+)* 43...Bd5 44.Rb8+ Ka6 45.Ra8+ Kb6 46.Rb8+ Ka6 47.Ra8+ Kb6 48.Rb8+]
43.Ree7 c5 44.Rd6# 1-0 (44) Firouzja,A (2744)-Grischuk,A (2708) Chess.com INT 2024. White used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/Black=0.58. An unexpected result.
½-½

115 **C65**
□ **Esipenko,Andrey** **2695**
■ **Nguyen,Ngoc Truong Son** **2632**
Chessable Masters Play In blitz (7)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 d6**
[6...Nd4 7.Nxd4 Bxd4 8.c3 Bb6 9.Nd2 c6 10.Ba4 d6 11.Bc2 Be6 12.0-0 g5 13.Bg3 h5 14.h4 Nd7 15.Nf3 Bg4 16.Qd2 Bxf3 17.gxf3 gxh4 18.Bh2 Qf6 19.f4 0-0-0 20.Kh1 Rhg8 21.Bd1 0-1 Esipenko,A (2675)-Lazavik,D (2532) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Jan Early blitz 2023 (11)]
7.Nc3
[7.c3 0-0 8.Nbd2 g5 9.Bg3 Nh5 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.d4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Nxg3 13.hxg3 Qf6 14.Qh5 Bxd4 15.cxd4 Qxd4 16.Qxh6 Qg7 17.0-0-0 Rb8 18.e5 dxe5 19.Ne4 f6 20.f3 Bf5 21.Qxg7+ Kxg7 0-1 Deslandes,P (2835)-Grube,J (2764) 3.--- 1990 (5)]
7...Bd7 8.Na4 The position is equal.
8...Bb6 9.Nxb6N

[9.c3 Ne7 10.Bxf6 gxf6 11.Bxd7+ Qxd7 12.0-0 Rg8 13.Ne1 f5 14.Kh1 fxe4 15.dxe4 Qg4 16.Qxg4 Rxg4 17.f3 Rg7 18.Nd3 Kd7 19.Rad1 Ng6 20.b4 Ke6 21.Nab2 a6 22.a4 f6 23.Nc4 Ba7 1-0 Praggnanandhaa,R (2738)-Deac,B (2701) FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 (11)]

9...axb6 10.Nd2!?N An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.

[10.c3 g5 11.Bg3 Ne7 12.Bc4 Ng6 13.h4 Ng4 0.67/22 *(13...Ba4= 0.18/18 14.b3 Bc6)* 14.Qd2 0.19/21 *(14.hxg5± 0.67/22 was preferable. hxg5 15.Rxh8+ Nxh8 16.Qd2)* 14...f6= 15.0-0-0 Qe7 16.h5 1-0 Bartel,M (2651)-McShane,L (2626) London Classic 13th 2023 (4)]

10...g5 11.Bg3 Nd4 12.Bxd7+ Qxd7 13.Nc4 Qe6 14.a4 -0.81/21

[14.Ne3= 0.14/18]

14...b5 -0.26/21

[Black should try 14...Nxe4∓ -0.81/21 15.0-0 f5]

15.Ne3 -0.93/20

[15.c3= -0.26/21]

15...bxa4∓

[15...Rxa4 16.c3 Nb3 17.Rb1∓]

16.h4 g4 -0.65/19

[16...Kd7∓ -1.02/19]

17.h5 -1.08/22

[17.Ra3∓ -0.65/19]

17...Rg8 18.c3 Nb3 Excellent horsemanship. **19.Ra3 Rg5** 0.04/20

[19...b5∓ -1.14/19 ...Ke8-d7 would now be deadly. 20.Nf5 Kd7]

20.Bh4= Rxh5 21.g3 -0.67/19

[21.f3= 0.01/20]

21...Ra6 -0.01/20

[21...b5∓ -0.67/19]

22.f3! gxf3 0.83/20

[22...d5!= 0.01/20 keeps the balance. 23.fxg4 Rxh4 24.Rxh4 Qb6]

23.Qxf3±

[23.0-0 is interesting. Ng4 24.Nd5 Qg6 25.Qxf3 Rxh4 26.Nxc7+ Kf8 27.gxh4 Rc6 28.Nd5]

23...Nc5 1.15/20 **24.0-0**

[24.Qxf6 Qxf6 *(24...Nxd3+? 25.Ke2-+)* 25.Bxf6 Rxh1+-+]

24...Rxh4 25.gxh4 Ncd7 26.Nf5 Kd8 27.Nxh6 c6 28.Kh2 1.01/19 White is more active.

[⌓28.Nf5 1.47/19]

28...Kc7 29.Qh3 Ra8 30.Qxe6 fxe6 31.Nf7 Prevents Ra8-h8 **31...d5 32.Raa1** 0.83/19

[32.Ng5+- 1.67/20]

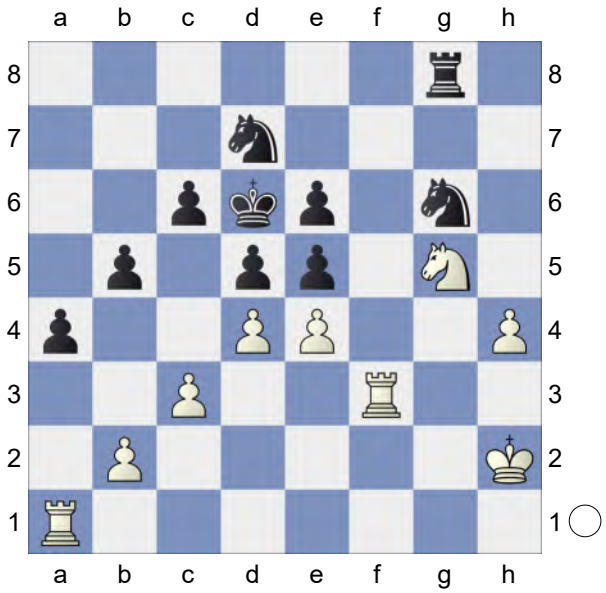
32...b5 33.Kh3 Nh5 34.Rf3 0.01/21

[Better is 34.exd5!± 1.14/19 exd5 35.d4 exd4 36.cxd4]

34...Rg8 35.Ng5 Nf4+ 36.Kh2 Kd6? 2.21/22

[36...dxe4= 0.01/22 37.dxe4 Kb6]

37.d4+- Ng6

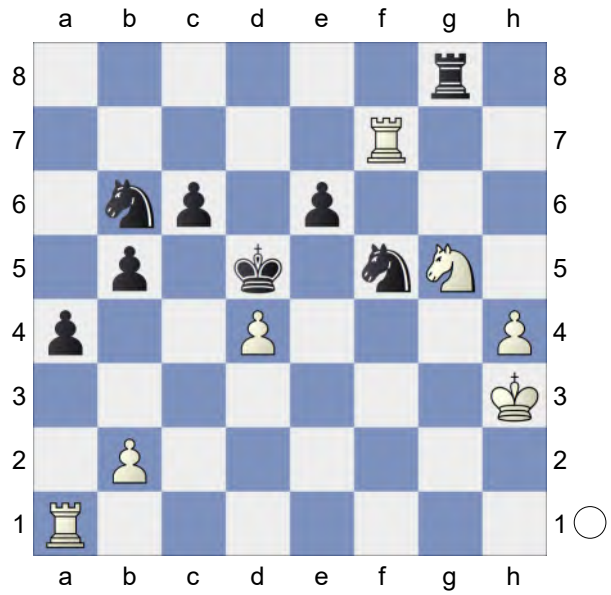


38.Kg3 0.97/21

[38.h5!+- 2.21/21 Nf4 39.Nf7+ Ke7 40.Nxe5 Remove Defender Nxe5 41.Rxf4]

38...exd4 39.cxd4 dxe4 40.Nxe4+ Kd5 41.Ng5 Ne7 42.Rf7 Nf5+ 43.Kh3

Nb6 1.73/21
[43...Nf8± 1.21/21]



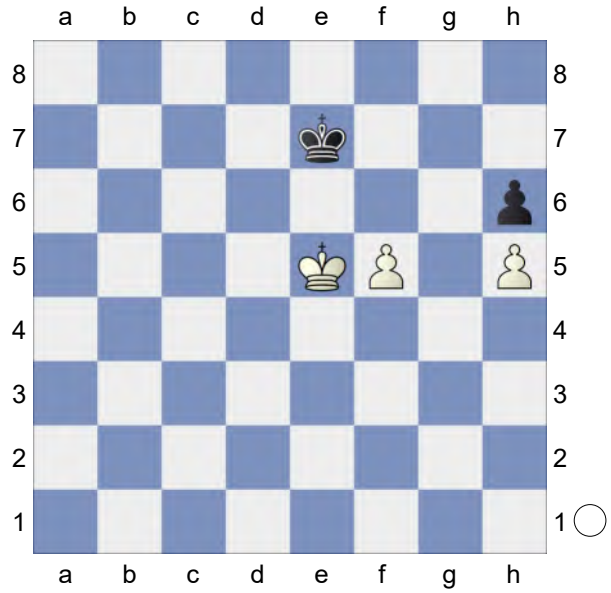
44.Re1 0.70/19
[Only move: 44.Rc1!+- 1.73/21 Threatens to win with Rc1-c5+. Nc4 *(44...Nxd4? 45.Rb7+-)* 45.Rd7+ Nfd6 46.Rxc4 Remove Defender, Deflection Kxc4 *(46...bxc4? 47.Nf7+-)* 47.Rxd6]
44...Nxd4? 3.15/20
[44...Rh8!± 0.70/19 45.Nf3 *(45.Rxe6? Rxh4+ 46.Kg2 Rg4+ 47.Kf2 Nxd4-+)* 45...Rg8]
45.Rg1? -0.01/19
[45.Rb7+- 3.15/20]
45...b4? 3.14/19
[45...c5= -0.01/19 and Black is okay.]
46.h5? 0.45/19
[46.Rb7+- 3.14/19]
46...Rh8± 47.Kg4 -0.01/19
[47.Rh7± 0.62/20 Rxh7 48.Nxh7]
47...Nc4? 1.97/19
[47...c5= -0.01/19]
48.Rd7++- Kc5
[Don't blunder 48...Nd6? 49.Rxd6+ Kxd6 50.Nf7+ Ke7 51.Nxh8+-]
49.Ne4+ Deflection **49...Kb5 50.Rxd4 Nxb2?** 4.59/19
[50...Rg8+± 1.53/17 is more resistant. 51.Ng5 c5]
51.Rc1 a3 52.Nd6+ 2.63/20
[⌓52.Rc5+ 4.54/19 Ka4 53.Rxc6]
52...Ka4 53.Rxc6 Ra8? 6.06/17
[53...a2 2.40/18 54.Ne4 Rg8+ 55.Kh4 e5]
54.Rb6 a2 55.Rdxb4+ Ka5 56.Nb7#
Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/ Black=0.71
1-0

116 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2830**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2737**
Norway Chess 12th (5) 01.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

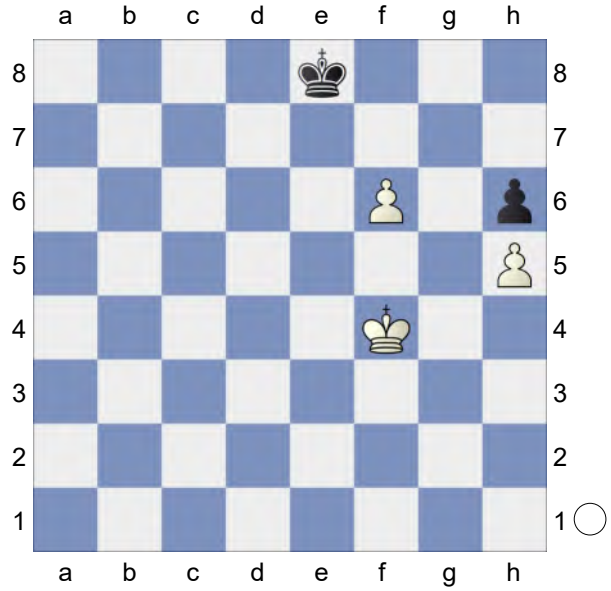
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3** 11.Bf4 gains popularity. 11.Lf4 wird beliebter. **11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** The position is equal. **13.d5 Qe7**
[13...c6 14.Nd2 cxd5 15.Nf3 d6 16.Be3 Nc7 17.Qd2 Bd7 18.g3 Bc6 19.Bg2 Ne6 20.Rd1 Qa5 21.a3 h6 22.Nd4 Nxd4 23.Bxd4 Bxd4 24.Qxd4 Re8 25.Bxd5 Bxd5 26.Qxd5 Qxd5 27.Rxd5 Re2 28.b4 Grube,J (2780)-Deslandes,P (2827) USSR 46/573 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Grob NZZ-3 p17 FSZ#721]]
[13...b6 14.Bf4 Bb7 15.Qd2 h6 16.c4 c6 17.Nc3 cxd5 18.cxd5 d6 19.Re1 Nc7 20.Bc4 Bxc3 21.bxc3 Qf6 22.h3 Rc8 23.Re4 b5 24.Bb3 a5 25.a3 Qf5 26.Rd4 Qb1+ 27.Bd1 b4 28.cxb4 Model Game-N,N [Shyam,

Sundar Mohanraj] 1-0 (36)]
14.Qd1 b6 15.a4N
[15.Na3 Bb7 16.g3 Nd6 17.Bf4 Re8 18.Qd3 g5 19.Bxd6 Qxd6 20.Rd1 Re5 21.Bg2 Be7 22.Qc4 h5 23.b4 10 Chapter-Games Game]
15...a5 16.Na3!?N An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 16.Nd2 Bb7 17.Nf3 g6 18.Ra3 Qd6 19.c4 c6 20.Rb3 cxd5 21.c5 Qxc5 White must now prevent ...d4. 22.Be3 0-1 Berchtenbreiter,M (2494)-Kozak,A (2578) AUT-chT 2324 2023 (2.2) Prevents d4.]
16...Bb7 17.Nc4 -0.33/17 Prevents Qd6.
[17.g3= 0.05/18]
17...Bg5 0.51/21
[17...Nd6∓ -0.33/17]
18.d6± Nxd6 19.Bxg5 Qxg5 20.Nxd6 cxd6 21.Qxd6 Bc6 22.Re1 Qf6
[22...h6 is more complex. 23.Re3 Qd5 24.Qf4 Qg5]
23.Qxf6 gxf6 Endgame KRB-KRB
24.b3 Rb8 25.c4 d5 26.Re7 Rc8 0.52/21 Prevents Rc7.
[26...Rb7= 0.19/23 feels stronger. 27.Rxb7 Bxb7]
27.f3 dxc4! 28.Bxc4 Bxa4! 29.Bxf7+ Kf8 30.Ra7 Bb5 31.h4 0.13/21
[31.Be6± 0.52/19 is more appropriate. Rc6 32.Bf5]
31...Rc5 32.Kf2 Rc2+ 33.Kg3 Re2 0.59/23 Prevents Be6.
[33...Bf1= 0.22/21 34.Kf4 Rxg2]
34.Rb7 0.21/24
[34.Bh5!± 0.59/23 might be stronger.]
34...Bd3 0.75/21
[34...Re5= 0.21/24 remains equal.]
35.Bc4± Bxc4 36.bxc4 KR-KR
36...Rc2 37.Rxb6 Kg7 38.Ra6 Rxc4 39.Rxa5 Rc7 40.Kg4 Kg6 41.h5+ Kf7 42.Kf5 h6 43.Kg4 Rc4+ 44.Kh3 Rc7 45.Ra4 Rb7 46.Rg4 aiming for Rg6.
46...Rb5 47.Kh4 Strongly threatening Rg6. **47...Rb1 48.Ra4 Rb7 49.Kg4 Rc7 50.Ra5** 0.01/23
[50.Kf4± 1.03/25]
50...Rb7 1.05/23
[50...Rc4+!= 0.01/23 51.Kf5 Rc7]
51.Kf5 -0.01/26
[51.Rc5± 1.05/23]
51...Re7 1.03/23
[51...Rc7!= -0.01/26]
52.f4 Ra6 is the strong threat. **52...Rb7 53.g3 Rc7 54.Ke4 Re7+ 55.Kf3 Kg7 56.Ra1 Kf7 57.Rh1 Ra7 58.Rd1 Rb7 59.Ke4 Re7+ 60.Kf5** Threatens to win with Rd6. **60...Ra7 61.Rd5 Rb7 62.Ra5** 0.01/26
[Better is 62.g4± 0.89/29]
62...Rc7!= 63.Ke4 0.01/23
[63.Rb5± 0.91/25]
63...Re7+! 64.Kf3 0.01/25
[64.Kd3± 0.78/23]
64...Rb7 0.96/24
[64...Kg7!= 0.01/25]
65.f5 0.50/29
[65.Kg4± 0.96/24]
65...Rc7 66.Ke4 Re7+ 67.Kd4 Rd7+ 68.Kc5 Rb7 69.g4 Re7 And now ... Re5+ would win. **70.Kd6** Inhibits Re5.
70...Re4 71.Ra7+ Kf8 1.75/30
[Black should try 71...Kg8± 0.50/32]
72.Rb7 0.52/27
[White has to play 72.Rh7+- 1.75/30]
72...Rxg4 1.96/31
[72...Kg8± 0.52/27]
73.Ke6+- Ra4! 74.Rd7 Ra1? 2.06/27
[74...Ra6+? 75.Rd6 Ra1 76.Kxf6+-]
[74...Ra8!= 0.01/28 and Black stays safe.]
75.Kxf6 Ra6+ 76.Ke5 Rb6 77.Rd6 Rxd6? #19/30
[77...Rb1+- 1.93/29 78.Kf6 *(78.Rxh6 Kg7+-)* 78...Kg8 79.Rd8+ Kh7

80.Rd7+ Kg8]
78.Kxd6 White mates. **78...Kf7 79.Ke5 Ke7**



80.f6+! Kf8 81.Kf4 Ke8



82.Ke4! Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.17 (very precise)
1-0

117 **C67**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2718**
■ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2703**
Chess.com SpeedChess blitz (1.7)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Be7 10.Nc3 Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4** White is slightly better. **12.Re1**
[12.f4 Bd7 *(12...Bf5 13.Rd1+ Ke8 14.g4 Bc8 15.Kg2 h5 16.f5 Be7 17.Kg3 hxg4 18.hxg4 Bh4+ 19.Kf3 Be7 20.Bf4 g6 21.Rh1 Rg8 22.f6 Bb4 23.Ne4 Be6 24.a3 Ba5 25.Ng5 Bd5+ 26.Kg3 Bxh1 27.Rxh1* Vachier Lagrave,M (2763)-Tabatabaei,M (2639) Riga 2021 [Tadic,Branko] 1-0 (33) *)* 13.Bd2 Kc8 14.Be1 Be7 15.f5 Bc5+ 16.Bf2 Bb4 17.g4 Re8 18.Bg3 Bc5+ 19.Kh2 Bd4 20.Rae1 b6 21.Nd1 Kb7 22.c3 Bc5 23.Nf2 Be7 24.e6 fxe6 25.fxe6 Bc8 26.Nd3 Bf6 Aronian,L (2765)-Caruana,F (2832) London ENG 2018 [Milos Pavlovic] ½-½ (55)]
12...h5
[12...h6 13.Ne2 Bf5 14.c3 c5 15.Nf4 Re8 16.Nh5 Rg8 17.g3 Be7 18.g4 Bd7 19.Nf4 a5 20.e6 fxe6 21.Nxe6+ Bxe6 22.Rxe6 Kd7 23.Re2 Bd6 24.Bd2 b5 25.f4 c4 26.Kg2 Raf8 27.Rf1 Emmenecker,P (2081)-Falkowski,D (2311) Dublin 2023 Schlechter-Tarrasch [John Watson] ½-½ (62)]
13.Ne4N
[13.Ne2 Be7 14.Bd2 Ke8 15.a4 a6 16.Bc3 Kf8 17.Rad1 Rh6 18.Bd2 Rh8 19.Bf4 g5 20.Bh2 Rh6 21.e6 Bxe6 22.Bxc7 Rc8 23.Bd6 Bxd6

24.Rxd6 Ke7 25.Rd3 Rf6 26.Ng3 Rf4 27.Ne4 Rg8 Mcshane,L (2653)-Van Foreest,L (2568) Hoogeveen 2022 1-0 (42)]

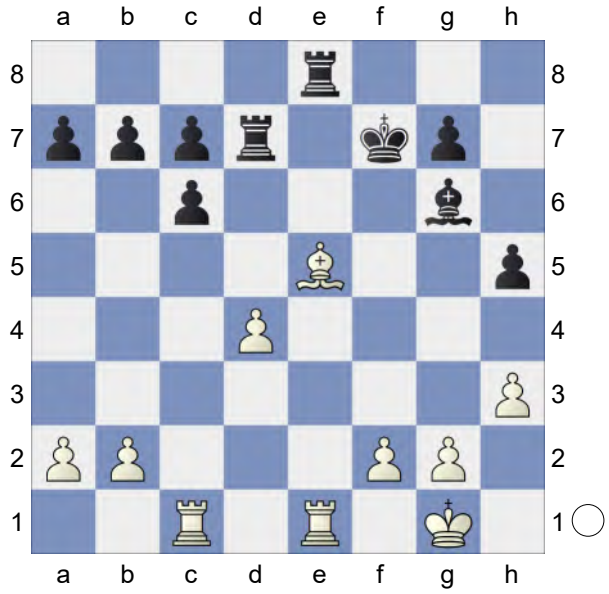
13...Bf5 14.Ng5!?N An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 14.Bf4 Kc8 15.Re2 Be7 16.Bg5 Bxe4 17.Bxe7 Bf5 18.Rd1 b6 19.f3 Kb7 20.Kf2 ½-½ Karttunen, M (2484)-Van Foreest,L (2575) Heart of Finland op 30th 2022 (4)]

14...Ke8 15.e6 fxe6 16.Nxe6 Kf7 17.Nd4 Bg6 18.Bf4 Bf6 19.c3 Bxd4 20.cxd4 Rad8 21.Be5 Rd7 1.03/21

[21...Rd5± 0.63/19 is superior.]

22.Rac1 Re8



23.Re3! Kg8 1.60/22

[⌓23...Re6 1.15/21]

24.Rb3± c5 25.Rxc5 c6 26.Rg3 Kh7 27.Kh2 Be4 28.Re3 1.12/20

[⌓28.b4 1.59/19]

28...Bd5 29.a3 g5 30.Rcc3 0.83/21

[⌓30.h4 1.20/20]

30...Kg6 31.Rg3 0.71/24

[⌓31.b4 1.07/21]

31...Kf5 1.19/20

[⌓31...h4 0.71/24 32.Rge3 a5]

32.Rge3 -0.01/20

[32.b4± 1.19/20]

32...Rde7 1.14/20

[32...Kg6!= -0.01/20 remains equal.]

33.Re1 0.71/21

[⌓33.b4 1.14/20]

33...Re6 1.17/20

[⌓33...a5 0.71/21]

34.Rce3 0.66/20 &Bianco is more active.

[34.b4± 1.17/20]

34...c5 35.Rc1 c4 36.f3 h4 37.f4 -0.01/24

[37.Rf1± 0.83/21]

37...g4 38.hxg4+ Kxg4 39.f5 0.01/24

[39.Rh3± 0.35/22 is more appropriate.]

39...Kxf5 0.69/22

[Black should play 39...Rf6= 0.01/24]

40.Rf1+± Kg5 0.48/21

[40...Kg6± 0.89/22]

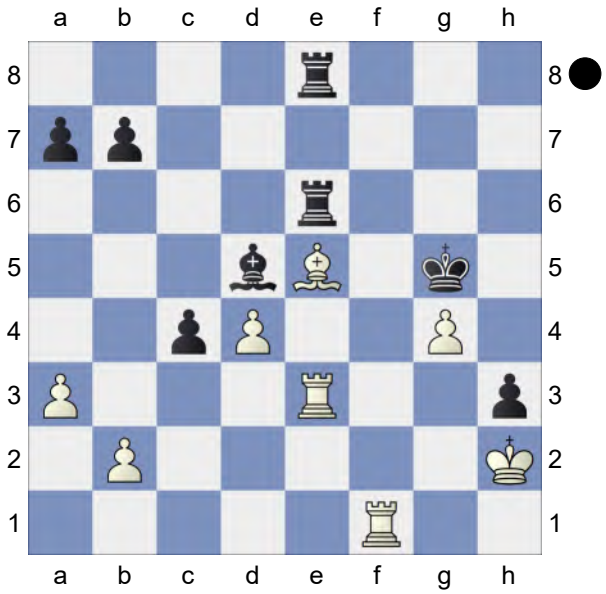
41.g3 0.09/21

[41.Kh3± 0.48/21 should be considered.]

41...h3 0.64/21

[Black should try 41...Rh8!= 0.09/21]

42.g4



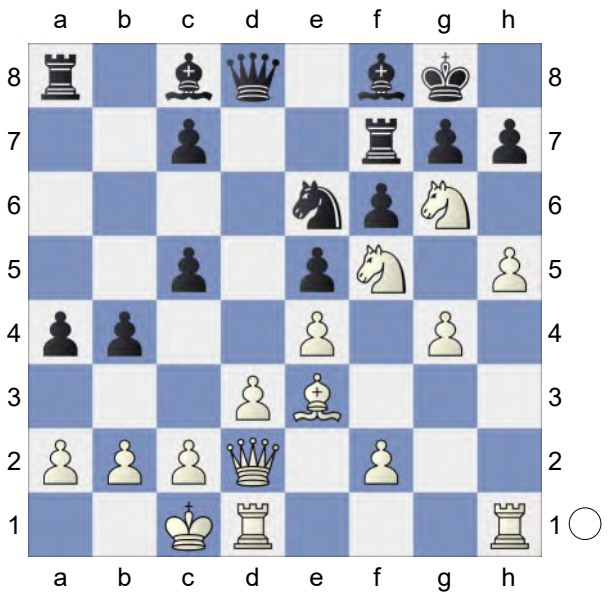
Strongly threatening Rf5+. **42...Rc8** 2.01/24 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[42...Bg2± 0.62/22 43.Rf5+ Kg6]
43.Kxh3 Rb6 2.69/23
[⌓43...Kg6 1.68/23 44.Kg3 Rg8]
44.Rf5++- Kg6 45.Bf4 Be6 3.26/23
[45...Bf7 1.89/21 keeps fighting. 46.Rg5+ *(46.Re7 Rh8+ 47.Rh5 c3+-)* 46...Kf6 47.Rf5+ Kg6]
46.Rg5+ Kf7 47.d5 Bd7 48.Be5 Intending Rf3+ and mate. **48...Rb3?** 11.55/24
[48...Rh6+ 3.53/21 49.Kg3 Rh7]
49.Rg7+ White is clearly winning.
49...Ke8 50.Bc3+ Kd8 51.d6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.39
1-0

118 **C65**
□ **Botyuliirma** **2936**
■ **ToromBot** **2955**
Rapid 11.02.2024
[Kitty Kat]

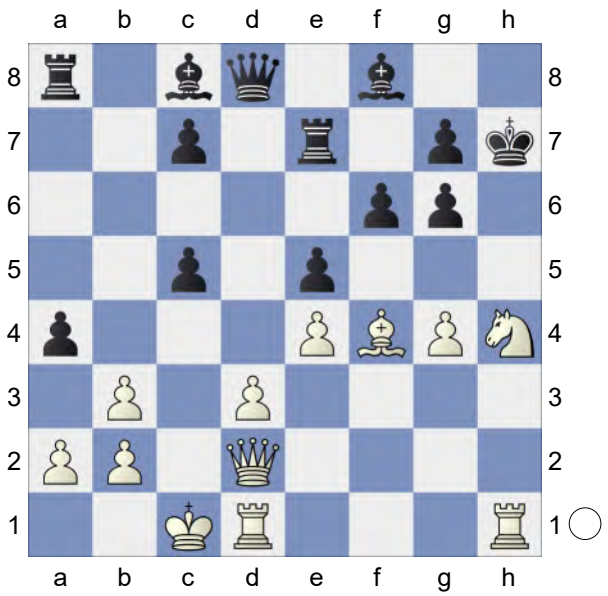
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.Nc4 Nd7 8.Ne3** The position is equal.
[8.Ncxe5 Nxe5 9.Nxe5 Qd4-+]
[8.Be3 Bd6 9.0-0 Re8 10.Nfd2 Nf8 11.Qh5 Be6 12.h3 Ng6 13.g3 Qd7 14.Kh2 f5 15.exf5 Bxf5 16.Ne4 Rf8 17.Rae1 Rae8 18.Bd2 Ne7 19.Ne3 Bg6 20.Qg4 Qd8 21.Ng5 Rf6 22.h4 Nd5 ½-½ Caruana,F (2800)-Predke,A (2666) 150/132 Riga 2021]
[8.0-0 Re8 9.Bg5 f6 10.Be3 Bf8 11.Nh4 a5 12.Nf5 Nc5 13.Qg4 Bxf5 14.exf5 e4 15.d4 Na4 16.Nd2 c5 17.dxc5 Nxc5 18.Rad1 Qe7 19.Bxc5 Qxc5 20.Nxe4 Qc6 21.f3 Rad8 22.c3 Kh8 0-1 Karthikeyan,M (2611)-Darini,P (2408) AI Cup Play In rapid 2023 (4)]
8...a5N
[8...Re8 9.g4 Bxe3 *(9...Bb4+ 10.Bd2 a5 11.h4 Nf8 12.a3 Bc5 13.Nf5 f6 14.Be3 Ne6 15.Qd2 Bf8 16.h5 h6 17.N3h4 Ng5 18.f3 Be6 19.Qf2 Bf7 20.Kf1 a4 21.Kg2 c5 22.Bxc5 Bxc5 23.Qxc5 Ne6 24.Qe3* Chapter-Games Chapter 3 (2)*)* 10.Bxe3 Nf8 11.Rg1 Qd6 12.Qd2 a5 13.Nh4 Ne6 14.Nf5 Qb4 15.c3 Qb5 16.0-0-0 c5 17.f4 exf4 18.Bxf4 a4 19.a3 Qc6 20.Be5 Ra6 21.Rdf1 Qd7 22.Nh6+ gxh6 23.Qxh6 ½-½ Narayanan,S (2611)-Anton Guijarro,D (2674) Khanty-Mansiysk (m/3-rapid) 142/116 2019 f6 24.Bxf6 Qxd3 25.Rf5 Qxe4 26.Rgf1 Qd3 27.Rg5+ Kf7 28.Qh5+ Kf8 29.Bg7+ Ke7 30.Qf7+ Kd6 31.Rd1 Qxd1+ 32.Kxd1 Nxg5 33.Qxe8 Bxg4+ 34.Kc1 Ne6 35.Bf6 c4 36.Be7+ Ke5 37.Qb5+ Kf4 38.Qxc4+ 8 Chapter C50-Games Chapter C50 Game]
9.g4 a4 10.Nf5 Bd6 11.Bg5 f6 12.Be3 Nc5 13.h4 Ne6 14.Qd2 c5 15.h5 Rf7 16.0-0-0 Bf8 17.N3h4 b5 18.Ng6 b4? 2.55/21
[18...hxg6 19.hxg6 Nf4 20.Bxf4 *(20.gxf7+ Kxf7 21.Rh2 a3+-)* 20...Bxf5 21.gxf5+- *(21.gxf7+ Kxf7 22.gxf5 exf4+-)*]
[18...Qe8= -0.05/20 and Black stays safe.]

(Diagram)

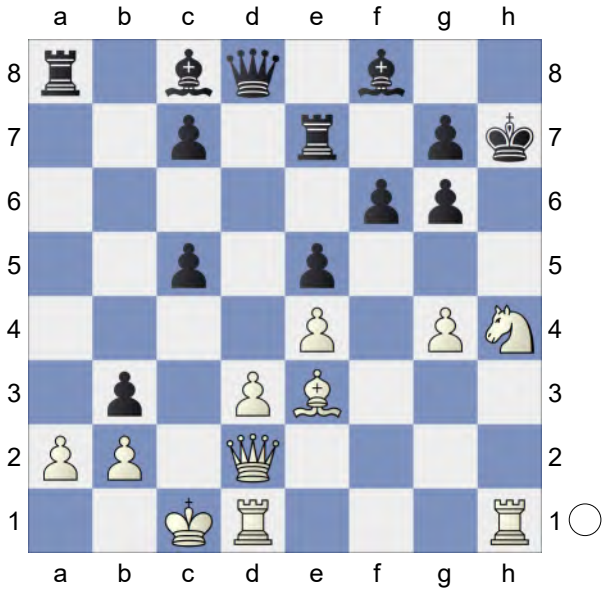


19.h6!+- b3
[19...hxg6? 20.h7+ Kh8 21.Nh4 Kxh7 22.f3-+]
20.cxb3
[20.hxg7? bxa2 21.gxf8Q+ *(21.gxf8B? a1Q#; 21.gxf8R+? Nxf8 22.Nh6+ Kg7-+)* 21...Nxf8-+]
20...hxg6 2.61/22
[⌓20...axb3 1.78/22 21.Nxf8 *(21.hxg7? Bxg7 22.Ngh4 bxa2-+)* 21...bxa2]
21.h7+! Kh8 22.Nh4 Kxh7 23.f4! Nxf4 24.Bxf4→ White attacks with force. **24...Re7**
[24...exf4 25.Nxg6+ Kxg6 26.Qh2 f5 27.e5]

(Diagram)



Hoping for ...axb3. **25.Be3!**
[25.Nf5+ Kg8 26.Nxe7+ Qxe7∓]
25...axb3
[25...Bxg4 26.bxa4 g5 *(26...Rxa4 27.b3±; 26...Bxd1 27.Qxd1 c4 28.Nxg6+ Kg8 29.Rh8+ Kf7 30.Qh5+-)* 27.Rdg1± *(27.Nf5+ Kg8±)*]



26.a3
[26.Nf5+ Kg8 27.a3 *(27.Nxe7+ Qxe7 28.axb3 Bxg4∓)* 27...gxf5-+]
26...g5? 3.82/22

[26...Bxg4 27.Rdg1 Qd7 *(27...Bh5? 28.Nxg6 Kg8 29.Rxh5+-)* 28.Qc3± *(28.Qg2 Kg8∓)*]
[26...c4 2.12/19]
27.Nf5+ Discovered Attack (Check) **27...Kg8 28.Qh2**
[28.Nxe7+ Qxe7 29.Rdg1 Qd6-+]
[Weaker is 28.Bxc5 Re8 29.Bxf8 Rxf8=]
28...Bxf5? 4.77/26
[28...Qe8 1.83/20 is a better defense.]
29.gxf5 White threatens Qh7+ and mate. **29...Re8 30.Qh7+ Kf7 31.Qg6+** White is clearly winning. **31...Ke7 32.Bxc5+ Kd7 33.Qf7+ Kc8 34.Rh8 Kb7 35.Qxb3+ Kc8** Black is weak on the light squares **36.d4 Bd6 37.Rh3 Qe7 38.Qd5 Ra5 39.Bxd6** Discovered Attack **39...Rxd5 40.Bxe7 Rd7 41.Bc5 exd4 42.Rxd4 Rxd4 43.Bxd4 Rxe4** Endgame KRB-KR **44.Bc3 Kd7 45.Rh7 Re7 46.Kc2 c5 47.a4 g4 48.Kd3 g3 49.Rh3 g2 50.Rg3 Kc6 51.Rxg2 Kd5 52.a5 c4+ 53.Kd2 Rb7 54.Re2 Rd7 55.Kc2 Rb7 56.Re8 Kc5 57.a6 Rf7 58.Re6 Kd5 59.Bd2** and Be3 would now be decisive **59...Rc7 60.Be3 Rc8 61.Kc3 Ra8 62.a7 Rh8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.43 **63.Re7**
1-0

119 **C65**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2830**
■ **Giri,Anish** **2745**
Warsaw Superbet Blitz (8) 11.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

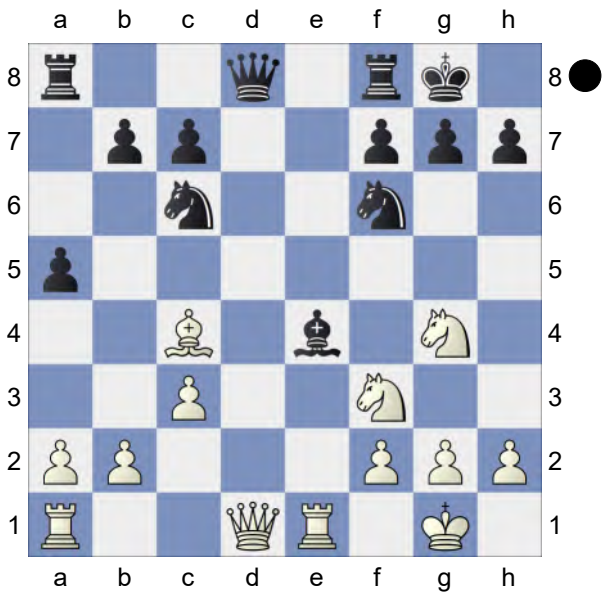
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 dxe4 8.dxe4** The position is equal. **8...a5 9.Qc2** 9.a4 is setting a new trend. 9.a4 setzt einen neuen Trend. **9...Qe7 10.a4 Nb8 11.h3 h6 12.Re1 Rd8 13.Bf1!?** Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **13...Nbd7 14.Nc4 b6 15.Rb1N** A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 15.Ne3 Bxe3 16.Bxe3 Bb7 17.Nd2 Nc5 18.f3 Nh5 19.Bc4 *(19.Nb3 Ne6 20.Red1 Bc6 21.Rxd8+ Rxd8 22.Kh2 Qh4 23.Qf2 Qxf2 24.Bxf2 Nhf4 25.Bg3 f6 26.Bc4 Kf8 27.Bxf4 Nxf4 28.g3 Nd3 29.Ra2 Nc5 30.Nxc5 Rd2+ 31.Kg1 bxc5 32.Kf1 g5 33.Be2 Rc2* Sadhwani,R (2603)-Lazavik,D (2553) Chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (64) *34.Ke1 Rc1+ 35.Bd1 Bd7 36.Kd2 Be6 37.Ra3 Rb1 38.Kc2 Rxd1 39.Kxd1 c4 40.h4 Ke7 41.Ke2 Bd7 42.hxg5 hxg5 43.Ke3 Be6 44.Ra1 Kf7 45.Rd1 Ke7 46.Rh1 Bd7 47.Ra1 Be8 48.f4 gxf4+* 8.♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2603)-Behrmann (2553) Baku 2023 Steinitz/Chigorin [John Watson] 1-0 (64) *)* 19...Ne6 20.Nf1 Ba6 21.Bd5 0-1 Firouzja,A (2760)-Lazavik,D (2567) Titled Tuesday intern op 12th Mar Late blitz 2024 (9)]
15...Bb7 16.Bd2 Qe6 17.b4 axb4 0.67/19
[17...Ba6= 0.01/19]
18.cxb4± Bd4 1.17/19 White leaves nothing to chance now.
[18...Bd6± 0.66/18]
19.a5± Rdc8 1.39/19
[⌓19...Nf8 0.98/18]
20.Nxd4 exd4 21.f3 Nh5 22.Qd3 &Bianco is more active. **22...Ng3 23.Qxd4 Nxf1 24.Rxf1 c5** 2.05/23
[24...Nf6± 1.54/18 keeps fighting.]

25.bxc5+- bxc5 26.Qc3 Ba6 27.Rfc1→ Black is in trouble. **27...Bxc4 28.Qxc4 Qxc4 29.Rxc4 Ne5 30.Ra4 Ra6 31.Bc3 Nd3 32.Rc4** Prevents Nb4. **32...Nf4 33.Kf2** Against Ne2 **33...Ne6** 2.68/20
[33...Rg6 1.63/19 was called for. 34.g4 Ra6]
34.Ke3 g5 35.g3 Rca8 36.f4 Rc6 37.f5 Nc7 8.10/21
[⌓37...Nd8 4.53/20 38.Rb5 Rac8]
38.Rb6 Ra6 39.Rxa6 4.07/20
[⌓39.Rb8+ #3/8 Ne8 40.Rxe8+ Kh7 41.Rh8#]
39...Nxa6 Endgame KRB-KRN **40.e5** Prevents f6. **40...Rc8 41.Ra4 Rd8 42.Ra2 Nb4 43.Rd2**
[Less strong is 43.Bxb4 cxb4 44.f6 Rb8+-]
43...Ra8 5.58/24
[⌓43...Rb8 3.87/20 44.e6 Kf8]
44.Rd6 Rxa5 15.07/23
[⌓44...Na2 4.25/21 45.Bb2 *(45.Rxh6 Nxc3 46.Kd3 Na2∓)* 45...Kf8 46.Rxh6 Rxa5]
45.Rd8+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.49
1-0

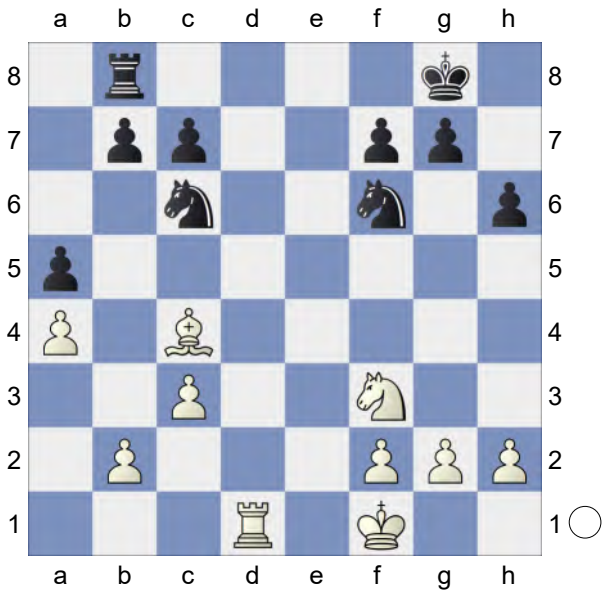
120 **C65**
□ **Sargsyan,Shant** **2660**
■ **Ma,Qun** **2645**
Tashkent Al Beruniy-A 2nd (7) 09.02.25
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.exd5 Qxd5** Hoping for ...Bc5xf2+!. **8.Bc4 Qd8 9.Nbd2** 9.b4 is the hot move. 9.b4 ist der hippe Zug. **9...a5**
[9...a6 10.a4 h6 11.b4 Bd6 12.Re1 Re8 13.Ne4 Be6 14.Qd2 Bxc4 15.dxc4 Nxe4 16.Rxe4 f5 17.Re1 e4 18.c5 Be5 19.Qxd8 Raxd8 20.Nxe5 Nxe5 21.Bf4 Rd3 22.Red1 Rxc3 23.Rd5 Nd3 24.Bxc7 0-1 Klemmer,M-Trofimov,V corr 155/125 2022]
10.Re1N
[10.h3 a4 11.Re1 Qd6 12.Qe2 h6 13.Bb5 Bf5 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.dxe4 Be6 3) 4.d3: Main Lines-4.d3 with 6.O-O d5 7.exd5]
[10.Qe2 Bd6 11.Ne4 h6 12.Nfd2 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Re8 14.Qh5 Be6 15.Bxh6 gxh6 16.Qxh6 Bxc4 17.Nf6+ Qxf6 18.Qxf6 Bxd3 19.Qg5+ Bg6 20.Rad1 Kg7 7. Ruy Lopez: Anti-Berlin - 4-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 & 5.c3 & 6.e]
10...Bf5 11.Nf1N
[11.Qe2 Re8 12.Ng5 Bg6 13.Nde4 Nxe4 14.Nxe4 Be7 15.a4 Kh8 16.Bb5 f5 17.Nd2 ½-½ Nekhaev,A (2453)-Siigur,J (2418) olm22 sf05 email 2020 [3]]
[11.Nxe5 Bxf2+ 12.Kxf2 Nxe5∓]
11...e4 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.Nxe3 Bg6
[13...exf3 with more complications. 14.Nxf5 fxg2 15.Qf3 g6]
14.dxe4 Bxe4 15.Ng4

(Diagram)



Deflection **15...Nxg4 16.Rxe4 Nf6 17.Re1 Qxd1 18.Raxd1 Rad8 19.Kf1 h6 20.a4 Rxd1 21.Rxd1 Rb8**



22.b4 -0.01/22 **Kf8= 23.b5 Rd8 24.Re1 Ne7 25.Ne5** The position is equal. **25...Nfd5 26.Rc1! Ng6 27.Nxg6+ fxg6 28.Bxd5**

[Avoid the trap 28.Rd1? Ne3+ 29.fxe3 Rxd1+ 30.Ke2 Ra1-+]

28...Rxd5 29.Ke2 Ke7 30.c4! Rg5 31.Kf3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)

½-½

121 **C65**

□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2740**

■ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2618**

Wch Rapid New York (5) 26.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.c3 0-0 8.d4 The position is equal. **8...Bd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 Qe8 11.Nbd2 Qf7 12.Re1 b6**

[12...Re8 13.Qc2 b6 14.Rad1 h6 15.Nf1 Nf8 16.Ne3 Bd7 17.Bg3 Ng6 18.Nf5 Bf8 19.dxe5 Nxe5 20.Nxe5 fxe5 21.Ne3 Bd6 22.b3 Be6 23.Rd2 Rf8 24.Red1 Rad8 25.Bxe5 Be7 26.Bxc7 Rxd2 27.Qxd2 1-0 Ferragut,A (2708)-Veres,E (2590) Moscow FIDE GP 2017 (3)]

13.Bg3 a5 14.b3 Ba6 15.dxe5N -0.30/19

[15.Qc2 0.09/17 feels stronger. c5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Rad1 Rfe8 18.Nf1 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 a4 20.Nd2 b5 21.Qd3 Ra5 22.Rb1 Nb6 23.Rfd1 axb3 24.axb3 c4 25.bxc4 Nxc4 26.Nxc4 Qxc4 27.Qxc4+ bxc4 28.f3 Rea8 29.Kf1 Kf7 30.Be1 ½-½ Skara,M (2645)-Behrmann (2529) 67/2 El Vendrell 1996 (5) Ke6 31.Ke2 h5 32.Rb2 g6 33.Rdb1 Ra1 34.Bd2 Rxb1 35.Rxb1 Ra2 36.Kd1 Bc5 37.Ke2 Be7 38.Kd1 Bc5 39.Ke2 Be7 40.Kd1 ½-½ Sargsyan,S (2645)-Lazavik,D (2529) The Game has begun U20 2022 (5)]

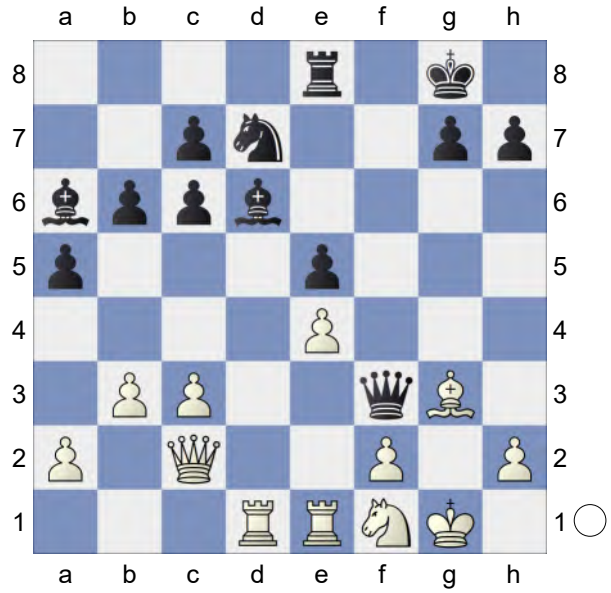
15...fxe5= 16.Qc2 Rae8 17.Rad1 Qh5

[17...Nf6 18.Nf1 Nh5 19.Ne3 Nxg3 20.hxg3 Bc8]

18.Nf1

[18.b4 simplifies Qf7 19.bxa5 bxa5 20.c4]

18...Rxf3 19.gxf3 Qxf3



20.b4! Prevents Nd7-c5 **20...Nf6 21.bxa5 bxa5 22.Qa4 Bxf1**

[22...Be2 is more complex. 23.Rd2 Bxf1 24.Kxf1 Qh1+]

23.Rxf1 Qxe4 24.Qxe4 Nxe4 25.Rd3 Kf7 26.Re1 White has compensation. **26...Nf6** 0.52/18

[26...Nc5= 0.01/21 27.Rf3+ Ke6]

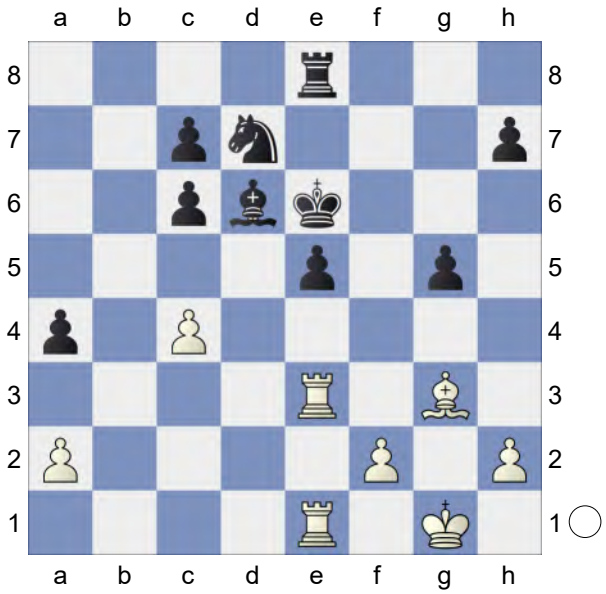
27.c4 0.01/20

[Better is 27.Rde3± 0.52/18]

27...Nd7 28.Rb3 a4 29.Rf3+ Ke6 30.Rfe3 and c4-c5! should not be overlooked **30...g5?** 2.59/21

[30...Kf7= 0.08/20 and Black has nothing to worry.]

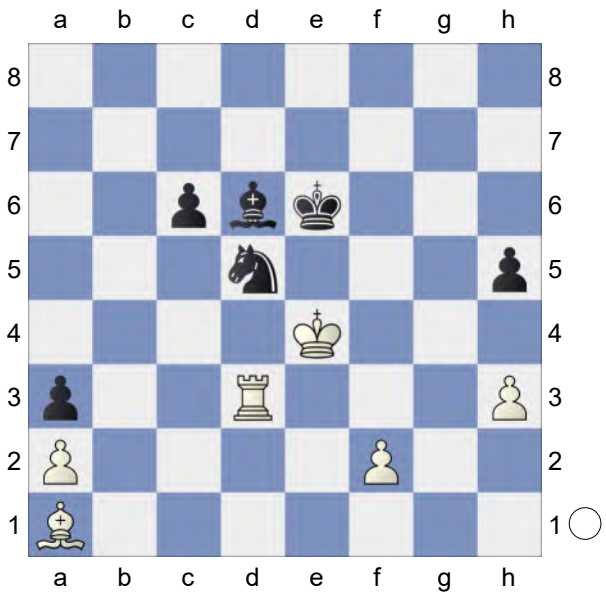
(Diagram)



Black cannot hold the game after this. **31.c5!+-** Deflection **31...Bf8 32.Bxe5 Kf5 33.Bxc7 Rxe3 34.Rxe3 Bxc5** Endgame KRB-KBN **35.Rc3 Ke6 36.Bd8 g4** 3.45/23

[36...h6 2.26/21 keeps fighting. 37.Rc4 a3]

37.Rc4 a3 38.Rxg4 Ne5 39.Rg3 h5 40.h3 Bd6 41.Kg2 Kd5 42.Bf6 Nc4 43.Rd3+ Ke6 44.Bc3 Nb6 45.Kf3 Nd5 46.Ke4 White is clearly winning. **46...Bc7 47.Ba1 Bd6**

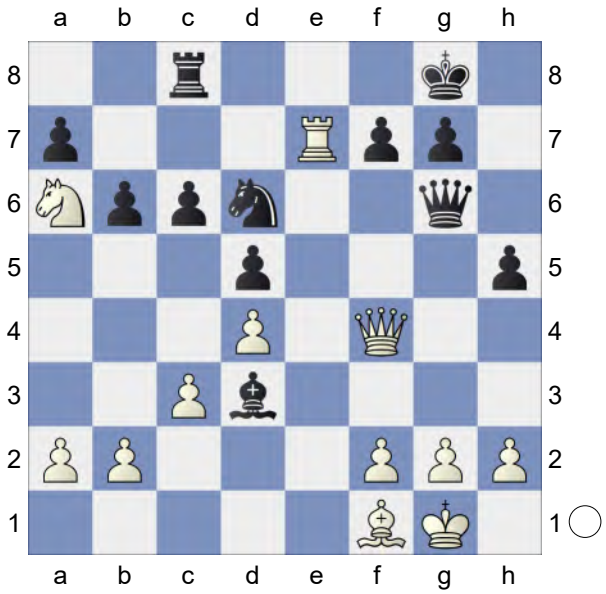


48.f4! Ne7

[48...h4 49.f5+]
49.Be5 Bb4 50.Rg3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.32
1-0

122 **C67**
□ **ProteusSF-Aureo** **2957**
■ **No-StockFish-Bots** **3084**
Rapid 12.01.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Bf4 d5 14.Nd2 Bf5**
[14...c6 15.a4 *(15.Qe3 Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 18.Qg3 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qb7* Lou,Y (2459)-Zhao,J (2535) Shaoxing 2024 1-0 (58)) 15...a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 Carlsen,M (2868)-Topalov,V (2793) Stavanger 2013 CBM 155 [Marin,Mihail] ½-½ (51)]
15.Qe2 c6 16.Re1N
[16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Bxf6 Qxf6 19.Re1 a5 20.Nc5 Nxc5 21.Qe8+ 1-0 (21) Paravyan,D (2612)-Lazavik,D (2553) Chess.com INT 2023]
16...Nd6 17.Nb3 Bg5 18.Bxg5 Qxg5 19.Qe5 Qg6 20.Nc5 Threatens to win with Nxb7! **20...h5** aiming for ...Re8. **21.Qf4 b6 22.Na6 Rc8 23.Re7 Bd3!**



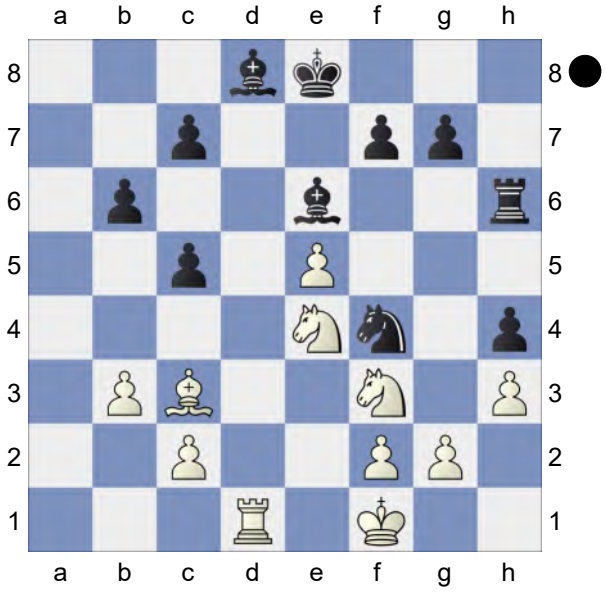
Hoping for ...Bxf1. **24.g3 Bxf1 25.Kxf1 Qb1+ 26.Re1 Qxa2 27.Qxd6 Qxa6+=** Endgame KQR-KQR **28.Kg2** Active counter play! **28...Qa2 29.Qd7 Rf8 30.Qxc6**
[30.Re2!?]
30...Qxb2 31.Re3 Qb3 32.Re5 Qc2 33.h4 g6 34.Re3 Qb3 35.Re7 a5 36.Rb7 Qc2 37.Qxd5 Qxc3 38.Rxb6 Qd3 39.Rb7 a4 40.Ra7 Qb3
[40...a3 with more complications. 41.Rc7 Qe2 42.Rd7 Qb2]
41.Qxb3
[41.Qc6 feels hotter. a3 42.Qf3 Qc4 43.Qxa3 Qxd4 44.Qa2]
41...axb3 KR-KR **42.Rb7** Prevents Rb8. **42...Rd8 43.Rxb3 Rxd4 44.Ra3 Kh7 45.f3 Rd2+ 46.Kh3 f6 47.Ra6 Rd3** 0.35/30
[47...Kg7= -0.01/29]
48.Rxf6± Kg7 49.Rf4 Ra3 50.Kg2 0.01/31
[50.g4!± 0.35/34]
50...Ra2+!= The position is equal. **51.Kf1 Ra1+ 52.Kg2 Ra2+ 53.Kf1 Ra1+ 54.Kf2 Ra2+ 55.Ke3 Ra3+! 56.Kf2 Ra2+ 57.Ke1 Ra1+ 58.Kd2**

Ra2+ 59.Ke1 Ra1+ 60.Kd2 Ra2+ 61.Ke3 Ra3+! 62.Ke2 Ra2+ 63.Ke1 Normal. Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

123 **C67**
□ **Tabatabaei,Mohammad Amin** **2718**
■ **Artemiev,Vladislav** **2694**
Moscow Stars Blitz (15) 02.07.2024
[Kitty Kat]

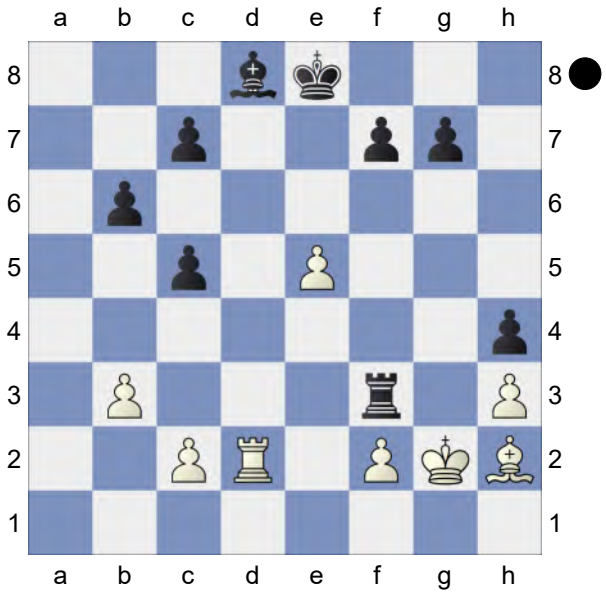
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 h6 10.Rd1+ Ke8 11.Nc3 Ne7!** is currently scoring better than 11...Be6. wohl besser als 11...Le6. **12.a4N**
[12.Nd4 Ng6 13.f4 Bc5 *(13...h5 14.Be3 a6 15.Ne4 Be7 16.Rd2 h4 17.Rad1 Rh5 18.a3 Nxe5 19.Re2 Nc4 20.Rde1 Nxe3 21.Rxe3 Be6 22.Nf2 Bf6 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Rxe6+ Kf7 25.Nd3 Rb5 26.a4 Rd5 27.R6e4 Rad8 28.Kf2* Kavalek,L (2559)-Ciocaltea,V (2722) C) 5...d5 2010 The Benko Gambit: MBM [Westminster Papers xi Feb 1879 p221] ½-½ (60) *)* 14.Be3 h5 15.Ne4 Bxd4 16.Rxd4 h4 17.Rad1 Bf5 18.e6 Bxe6 19.Nc5 Rh5 20.Nxb7 Rd5 21.b3 Rb8 22.Rxd5 cxd5 23.Nc5 c6 24.Rd4 Bc8 25.Ra4 Ra8 26.c4 dxc4 Chapter C50-Games Game 9 (37)]
[12.b3 Bf5 13.Nd4 Bh7 14.Bb2 Rd8 15.Nce2 Nd5 16.c4 Nb4 17.Nf4 Rg8 18.g4 Na6 19.Nf5 Nc5 20.Rxd8+ Kxd8 21.Rd1+ Kc8 22.Ba3 Ne6 23.Nxe6 Bxa3 24.Nexg7 Bf8 25.e6 Bxf5 26.Nxf5 fxe6 Caruana,F (2805)-Carlsen,M (2876) 2015 [Flores Rios,Mauricio] 1-0 (45)]
[12.Bf4 Ng6 13.Bh2 Bb4 14.Nd4 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Bd7 16.c4 Nf8 17.f4 c5 18.Nb5 Ne6 19.f5 Bxb5 20.cxb5 Nd4 21.f6 Rg8 22.a4 Rd8 23.Kh1 Nxc2 24.Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Rc1 Nd4 26.Rxc5 Ne6 Salemgareev,T (2465)-Afanasiev,N (2537) Satka 2023 ½-½ (41)]
[12.Be3 Ng6 13.a3 Be7 14.Rd2 a6 15.Re1 Nh4 16.Nxh4 Bxh4 17.Ne2 Be7 18.Nf4 h5 19.e6 Bd6 20.e7 Kxe7 21.c4 Bxf4 22.Bxf4+ Be6 23.Bg5+ Kf8 24.b3 Kg8 ½-½ (24) Hantel,T (2754)-Buchicchio,G (2786) Athens GRE 2005 Telechess CBM 89 [Olsson; Korrschack 3/2001]]
12...Ng6 13.a5 Be7 14.Be3 White is slightly better. **14...h5!?N** An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 14...Bd7 15.Ne4 Bf5 16.Ra4 Nf8 17.g4 Bh7 0.85/19 *(17...Bd7± 0.50/19)* 18.Ne1± g5 1.06/19 *(18...h5± 0.69/18)* 19.Nf6+!± Bxf6 20.exf6 Ne6 ½-½ Wei,Y (2732)-Dominguez Perez,L (2758) PRO League KO Stage rapid 2020 (3.1)]
15.Rd2 0.20/20
[15.a6± 0.62/19 might be stronger.]
15...h4= 16.Rad1 -0.31/21
[16.a6!± 0.55/18]
16...Rh5∓ 17.Bd4 -0.37/21
[17.Nd4= 0.00/20]
17...Be6 18.Ne4 b6 Inhibits Bc5. **19.Bc3 c5 20.b3 Rd8**
[20...Rf5 is interesting. 21.Kh2 Rd8 22.Rxd8+ Bxd8 23.Bb2 Rf4]
21.Rxd8+ Bxd8 22.axb6 axb6 23.Ned2 Nf4 White must now prevent ... Ne2+. **24.Kf1** -1.13/23 Against Ne2

[⌓24.Bb2 -0.76/18]
24...Rh6 -0.77/22 &Nero is more active.
[⌓24...Bf5 -1.13/23 25.Rc1 Bg5]
25.Ne4 -1.84/20
[25.Nc4∓ -0.77/22]



25...Bf5!-+ 26.Bd2 Bxe4 27.Bxf4 Rh5 -0.54/22
[27...Bxc2-+ -1.89/21 28.Rd2 Bxb3 29.Bxh6 gxh6]
28.Rd2 -1.06/27
[Better is 28.Ne1∓ -0.54/22]
28...Bxf3∓ 29.gxf3 Endgame KRB-KRB
29...Rf5 30.Bh2 Rxf3 31.Kg2

(Diagram)



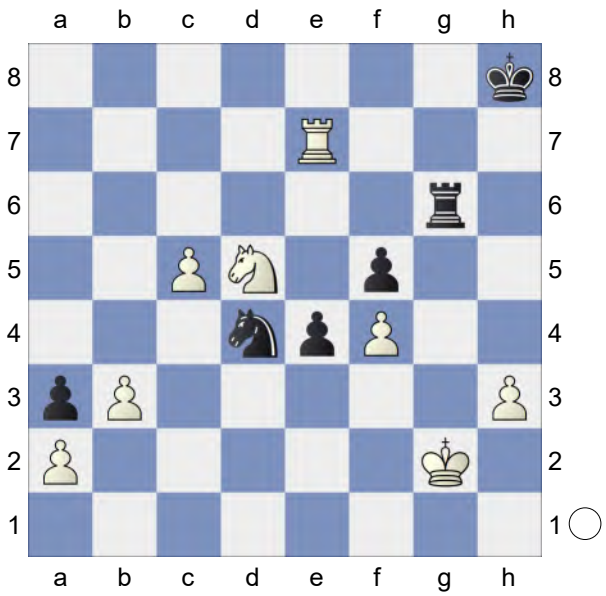
Rc3 32.Bf4 -1.93/24
[32.e6∓ -1.57/23 f6 33.Re2]
32...c4-+ 33.bxc4 -2.66/27
[33.e6∓ -1.56/23 Bf6 34.exf7+ Kxf7 35.Rd7+ Ke6 36.Rxc7]
33...Rxc4 34.Be3 Re4 35.Bd4 Bg5 36.Rd1 c5 37.Ba1 Re2 38.Kf3 -3.84/23
[38.Rb1 -2.49/23 was worth a try.]
38...Rxc2 39.Rb1 -5.03/22
[39.Rg1 -3.19/21 might work better.]
39...Rc1 Black is clearly winning.
40.Rxc1 Bxc1 KB-KB **41.Ke4 g6 42.Kd5 Kd7 43.Bc3 Bf4 44.f3 Bg5 45.Be1 Be7 46.Bf2 b5 47.f4 b4** ...b3 is the strong threat. **48.Be1 Bf8 49.Kc4 Ke6 50.Bxh4 Bh6 51.Bg3 Kf5 52.Bf2 Bxf4 53.Bxc5 Bd2 54.Bd6 Bc3 55.Kd3 Ke6 56.Kc4 f6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/ Black=0.14 (very precise)
0-1

124 **C65**
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2743**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2760**
Candidates Tournament (13.4) 20.04.24
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Levon Aronian crushes the World Champion in a brilliant game, which brought the victory for Armenia against Norway. Adhiban,Baskaran: 'An epic clash between a slightly weakened "slow poison" Carlsen and the improved "I am a different player now" Aronian. Mikhalevski, V: 'Adhiban,B: 'An epic clash between a slightly weakened "slow poison" Carlsen and the improved "I am a different player now" Aronian. '" **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.Nd2 c6 8.Bc4 d6 9.c3** The position is equal. **9...Bb6 10.Bb3 a5 11.Nc4 Ba7**
[11...Bc7 12.a4 Be6 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxf4 d5 15.Bxc7 Qxc7 16.exd5 Nxd5 17.Qf3 Nf6 18.Qf4 Qxf4 19.Rxf4 0-0 20.h3 Rfd8 21.d4 c5 22.Rd1 Nd5 23.Re4 Nf6 24.Rf4 Nd5 25.Re4 Nf6 26.Rf4 Balogh,C (2558)-Prohaszka,P (2585) Ajka 2023 ½-½]
12.Ne3N 'N!?' New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[Vorgänger: 12.Kh1 a4 13.Bc2 Ng4 0.12/19 *(⌓13...b5* -0.24/20 *14.Ne3 0-0)* 14.Ne3 -0.31/21 *(14.d4!=* 0.12/19 *)* 14...Bxe3∓ 15.Bxe3 Qh4 16.h3 Nxe3 17.fxe3 Bxh3 18.gxh3 Qxh3+ 19.Kg1 Qg3+! 20.Kh1 ½-½ Karjakin,S (2754)-Aronian,L (2772) Bucharest Superbet blitz playoff 2019 (1)]
[12.a4 0-0 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Nxa5 d5 16.Bc2 dxe4 17.dxe4 Rd8 18.Qe1 Qg5 19.Kh1 Rd2 20.Bd1 Be6 21.b4 Rad8 22.Nxb7 Bc4 23.Nxd8 Bxf1 24.Qxf1 Rxf2 25.Qg1 Ra2 26.Rxa2 Bxg1 Chapter-Games Game 4 (44) 27.Kxg1 Qc1 28.Kf2 Qxd1 29.Nxc6 Qb3 30.Rd2 Qxc3 31.Rd6 Qb2+ 32.Ke3 Qa3+ 33.Kf2 Qxa4 34.Nxe5 Qc2+ 35.Kf3 f5 36.Rd3 fxe4+ 37.Kxe4 Qxg2+ 38.Nf3 Qg4+ 39.Ke3 g5 40.Kf2 Qf5 41.Rd8+ Kg7 Carlsen,M (2850)-Aronian,L (2781) Reykjavik ISL 2015 [Mikhalevski, V] 0-1 (44) 42.Kg2 g4 43.Nd2 Qe6 44.Nf1 Qc6+ 0-1 (44) Lozon Urena,X (2850)-C 06/30 (2781) Moscow 2015 200 Traps In The Opening [Lirindzakis,T; Porfiriadis,S]]
12...0-0 13.Qf3 d5 14.Bc2 g6
[14...a4 feels hotter. 15.Nf5 b5 16.Bg5 d4]
15.Re1 Be6 16.exd5 cxd5 17.h3
[17.Nf1 is more complex. Ng4 18.Re2 Qf6 19.Bb3]
17...Re8 18.Ba4 e4
[18...Nd7 with more complications. 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Qxd5 Bxf2+ 21.Kxf2 Qh4+]
19.dxe4 dxe4 20.Qe2 -0.08/21
[20.Qf4± 0.34/20 Nh5 21.Qxe4]
20...Re7!= 21.Nf1 Qc7 22.Bb3 Inhibits Bc4. **22...a4 23.Bxe6 Rxe6 24.Be3 a3 25.c4** Against Nd5 **25...Nh5 26.g3 Bc5** 0.12/17
[⌓26...Bxe3 -0.25/18 27.Nxe3 Nxg3! 28.fxg3 Qxg3+ 29.Ng2 Qxh3]
27.b3 -0.41/20
[27.Rab1!= 0.12/17]
27...f5∓ 28.Bxc5 Qxc5 29.Rad1 Rf8 -0.13/19
[29...Rae8∓ -0.54/19 might be stronger.]

30.Rd5 Qe7 31.f4 Nf6 -0.27/20
[31...b6∓ -0.63/20]
32.Rd2= g5 -0.01/22
[32...Rd8∓ -0.47/18]
33.Ne3 gxf4 34.gxf4 Qf7 35.Kh2
[35.Nxf5? Nh5 36.Rd6 Rg6+ 37.Rxg6+ Qxg6+ 38.Qg4 Rxf5-+]
35...Nh5 36.Qf2 Rg6 0.57/22
[36...Kh8= 0.01/20]
37.Rd5!± Ng7 38.Red1 Rh6 39.Rg1 Rg6 40.Rgd1 -0.01/17
[40.b4± 0.31/21]
40...Rh6!= 41.Rg1 Strongly threatening Nxf5. **41...Rg6 42.Qh4** -0.01/20
[42.Ra5!± 0.33/18]
42...Rxg1! 43.Kxg1 Kh8 0.64/20
[43...Qg6+= 0.01/20 44.Kf2 Ne6]
44.Kf2!± &Bianco is more active.
44...Rg8 45.Qg5 0.22/21
[45.Qh6± 0.65/21 deserves consideration.]
45...Qg6 0.95/21
[45...Ne6= 0.22/21 remains equal. 46.Qxf5 Qg7]
46.Qxg6±
[But not 46.Nxf5? Nxf5 47.Qxg6 hxg6-+]
46...hxg6 Endgame KRN-KRN **47.Rd6** Inhibits Ne6. **47...Re8 48.Rxg6** Rf6 is the strong threat. **48...Ne6 49.Nd5 Nd4 50.Rb6 Nc2** 3.05/22
[50...e3+ 1.68/22 might work better. 51.Nxe3 Re4 52.Rxb7 Kg8]
51.Rxb7+- White threatens Nf6 and mate. **51...Re6** Prevents Nf6. **52.Re7 Rh6 53.c5 Nd4 54.Kg2** 1.71/20
[54.Ke3 Nc6+-]
[⌓54.b4 4.09/24]
54...Rg6+

(Diagram)



55.Kf2 -0.01/17
[55.Kf1!± 1.15/24 Threatens to win with Rd7. Rg3 56.Rd7]
55...Rh6!= A mistake that costs the game. **56.b4**
[Not 56.Ke3 Nc6+-]
56...Rxh3 57.Kg2 Rh6 58.Rb7 Kg8? 7.00/22
[58...Ne6 3.31/20 59.Rb6 Kg7]
59.b5+- White is clearly winning.
59...Kf8 60.b6 Rg6+ 61.Kf2 Rh6 62.Rc7 b7 would kill now. **62...Rh2+ 63.Kg3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
1-0

125 **C65**
□ **Esipenko,Andrey** **2671**
■ **Artemiev,Vladislav** **2699**
RUS-ch playoff 77th rapid (1) 28.08.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 The play gets more interesting as the match goes on. We would have liked the match to continue further, to game eight or

beyond. The players have warmed up to the task, but they are also well aware that if their play starts to get more fanciful, as in games one and three, the opponent will find refutations. --- Technically, what is most striking about this game is that, although the play gets strange and complicated, and both players are fighting hard for tactical blows, it seems the game did not stray far from equality, except for a brief phase just before the time control. Most players would have got well beyond their depth, whether as White or as Black, and therefore a loss is likely. Yet both Kramnik and Aronian kept their balance, not through quiet "positional" chess, but fighting the position through, move by move. --- **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Ba4 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.c3 Bb6 8.h3** The position is equal. **8...Ne7 9.Re1 Ng6 10.Nbd2 c6**

[10...Nh5 seems wilder. 11.Nc4 Ngf4 12.Bc2 Qd7]

11.d4 Re8 12.Bc2 h6 13.a4 a5N

[13...Be6 14.Nf1 exd4 *(14...Qd7 15.Ng3 Rad8 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Qc1* Karjakin,S (2753)-Jakovenko,D (2735) Saint Petersburg (blitz) 140/(130) 2018 140 Games Section [Tadic, Branko] *)* 15.Nxd4 Bd7 16.f4 d5 17.e5 Ne4 18.Bxe4 dxe4 19.a5 Bxa5 20.Ng3 Bb6 21.Kh2 c5 22.Ndf5 Bxf5 23.Nxf5 Qxd1 24.Rxd1 Rad8 25.Be3 Rd3 26.Re1 f6 27.exf6 gxf6 28.Nxh6+ Aronian,L-Kramnik,V Match, Zürich 2012 [Colin Crouch] ½-½ (43) Kf8 29.Ra4 Rd5 30.c4 Rd3 31.b4 Rxe3 32.Rxe3 cxb4 33.Rg3 e3 34.Rxg6 e2 35.Ra1 Bf2 36.Rg8+ Ke7 37.Rg7+ Kd6 38.Rxb7 e1Q 39.Rxe1 Bxe1 40.Nf5+ Kc5 41.Rb5+ Kc6 42.Nd4+ Kc7 43.Rc5+ C 06/30 (2820)-Kuvaldin,V (2801) Bajmok 2012 200 Traps In The Opening [Lirindzakis,T; Porfiriadis,S] ½-½ (44)]

[13...Bc7 14.Nf1 d5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.dxe5 Bxe5 17.f4 Bc7 18.e5 Ne4 19.Bxe4 dxe4 20.Qh5 Be6 21.Ng3 Bb6+ 22.Be3 Qd3 23.Nf1 Rad8 24.f5 Bb3 25.f6 Qd5 26.Bxb6 axb6 27.fxg7 Qxe5 28.Qxh6 Chapter C50-Games Game 5 (36)]

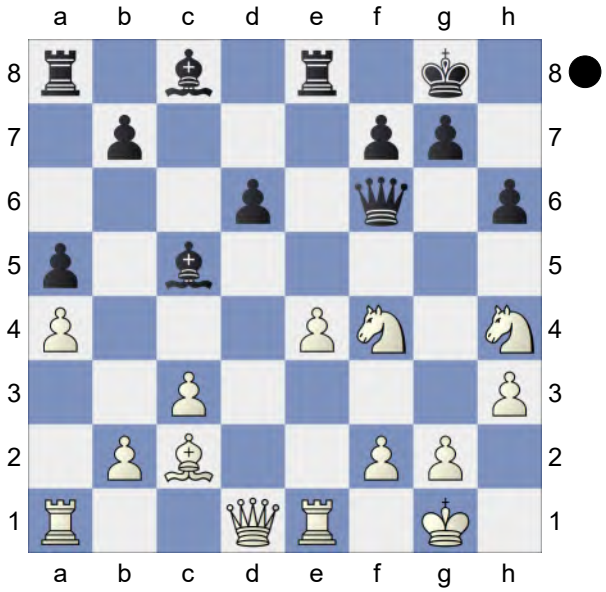
14.Nf1 Nh5!N A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 14...d5 15.exd5 e4 16.N3d2 -0.61/22 *(16.Ne5=* -0.16/22 might be stronger.*)* 16...cxd5∓ 17.f3 exf3 18.Rxe8+ Qxe8 19.Qxf3 Qc6 20.Ne3 Bd7 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2780)-Svane,R (2646) FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 (1)]

15.Be3 Nhf4 16.Ng3 Nh4 1.00/21

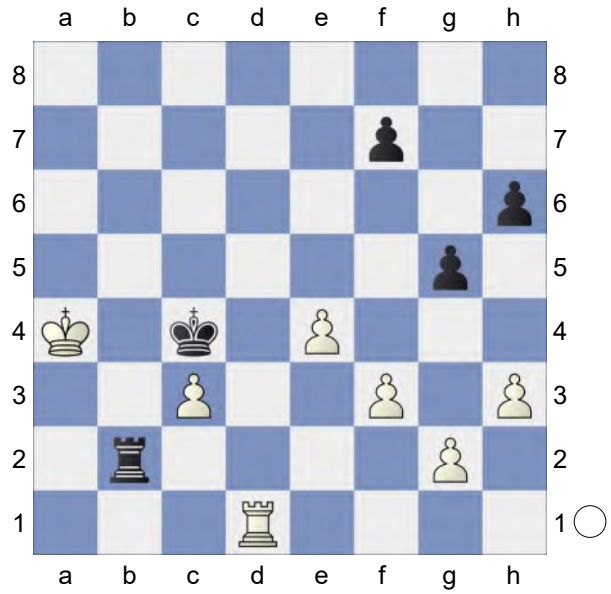
[16...Bc7± 0.32/18]

17.Bxf4± exf4 18.Nh5 c5 19.dxc5 Bxc5 20.Nxf4 Qf6 21.Nxh4



Nf5 is the strong threat. **21...Qxf4 22.Nf3 b6 23.Qd2 Qxd2 24.Nxd2 Bb7 25.Nb3 Bc6 26.Nxc5 bxc5 27.Rad1 Red8 28.Rd2 Rab8 29.b3 Kf8**

30.Red1 Ke7 31.Kf1 0.82/21
[⌓31.Kh2 1.21/18]
31...c4 32.bxc4 Rb2 33.c5 Rxc2 34.Rxc2 Bxa4 35.cxd6+ Endgame KRR-KRB **35...Kd7 36.Rdd2 Bxc2 37.Rxc2** KR-KR **37...Re8 38.f3** 0.40/24
[38.Ra2± 0.85/23]
38...Kxd6± 39.Ra2 Ra8 40.Ke2 Kc5 41.Kd3 a4 42.Kc2 g5 43.Ra1 a3 44.Kb3 Rb8+ 45.Kxa3 White wants to play Rd1. **45...Kc4!** White must now prevent ...Ra8+. **46.Rd1** Threatening Rd6. **46...Rb3+ 47.Ka4 Rb2!**



48.Rd4+ Kxc3 49.Rd7 Rxg2 50.Rxf7 Threatens to win with Kb5. **50...Rh2** 0.65/23
[Black should play 50...Kc4= 0.00/21 51.Ka5 h5]
51.e5 -0.13/25
[Better is 51.Kb5± 0.65/23]
51...Kc4= 52.Ka5 -0.58/25
[52.Rc7+!= -0.18/24 Kd5 53.e6]
52...Kd5∓ 53.f4 -1.44/25
[⌓53.Rf6 -0.72/26]
53...Rxh3 -0.19/23
[53...gxf4∓ -1.44/25 54.Rxf4 Rxh3]
54.fxg5? -4.32/23 Now White is beyond hope.
[54.Rd7+= -0.19/23 and White has nothing to worry. Kc6 55.Rd8 *(55.Rd6+ Kc5∓)*]
54...hxg5-+ 55.Rf5 Rg3
[Weaker is 55...g4 56.Rg5∓]
56.Kb4? -8.10/33
[56.Kb6 -3.28/26]
56...Ke6 Black is clearly winning. **57.Rf8 Kxe5 58.Kc4 Re3 59.Rg8 Kf4** aiming for ...g4. **60.Kd4** White threatens Rf8+ and mate. **60...Re7 61.Kd3 g4 62.Kd2 Kf3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.43/Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

126 **C48**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2737**
■ **Sevian,Samuel** **2687**
Bullet Chess Losers blitz (5.15) 13.06.24
[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nc3 Bd6 7.h3 Nd7 8.Be3 0-0** The position is equal. **9.0-0 Re8 10.Nd2 Nf8 11.Nc4N**
[11.Ne2 Ne6 12.Kh1 c5 13.a4 Nf4 14.Ng1 Be6 15.b3 f6 16.Nc4 Bf8 17.Bd2 Qd7 18.Kh2 Rad8 19.Qf3 Qf7 20.g3 Ng6 21.Ne3 Ne7 22.Ne2 Nc6 23.Nc3 Nd4 24.Qg2 Qh5 25.f3 g6 4.?c3 ?d4 5.?d3_35792 (2468)-Kumari,P (2603) Russia 2023 Inf33 [John Watson] 1-0 (94)]
11...Ng6 12.Qd2!N A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 12.d4 Be6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.d5 cxd5 15.Nxd5 Qd7 0.47/16 *(15...Rc8=* 0.16/17 *)* 16.Qd3 Bxd5 17.Qxd5 Ne7 18.Qd3

1-0 Caruana,F (2786)-Niemann,H (2667) FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 (2)]

12...Be6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.f4 -0.16/21
[⌓14.d4 0.18/17]

14...exf4=
[14...Nxf4 seems wilder. 15.Bxf4 exf4 16.Rxf4 Qb6+]

15.Bxf4 d5 16.exd5 Bxd5 17.Bg3 Qb6+ 18.Kh2 Rad8
[18...h5 keeps more tension. 19.Rab1 h4 20.Bf2 Qa5]

19.b3 h6 0.40/20
[19...Be6= 0.07/18 deserves consideration.]

20.Rf2 -0.08/19
[20.Qf2± 0.40/20 feels stronger.]

20...Be6 21.Raf1 Rd4 22.Rf3 Qd8 23.Qf2 Rd7 0.70/21
[23...Kh7= -0.01/19]

24.Re3 -0.01/20
[White should play 24.Qxa7± 0.70/21 b6 25.Qa6]

24...a6 25.Ne4 Bd5 26.Nc5 Rxe3 27.Qxe3 Re7 28.Qf2 Qe8 1.27/20
[28...b6= 0.08/20 remains equal. 29.Na4 *(29.Nxa6 c5=)* 29...c5]

29.Re1 0.27/23
[29.c4± 1.27/20 Re2 30.Re1 Rxe1 31.Qxe1 Qxe1 32.Bxe1]

29...a5? 1.89/23
[29...h5!= 0.27/23 30.Rxe7 Qxe7]

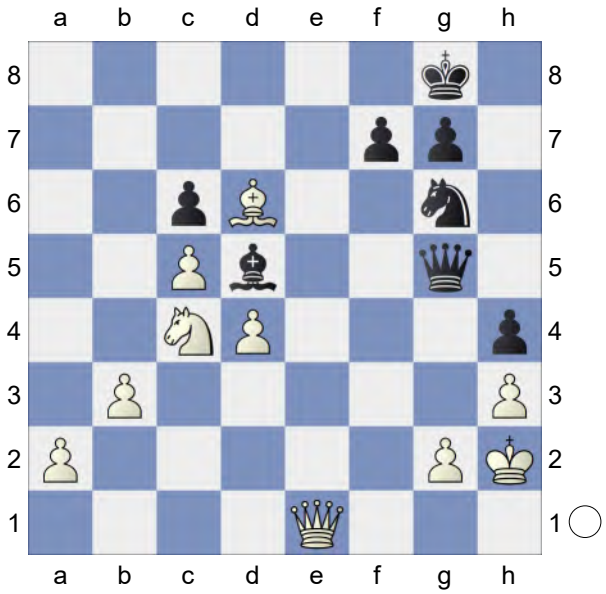
30.Nxb7 1.45/21
[30.c4+- 1.89/23 Rxe1 31.Qxe1 Qxe1 32.Bxe1]

30...Rxe1 2.63/23
[30...h5± 1.45/21]

31.Qxe1+- Qc8 32.Nxa5 h5 33.c4 Be6 34.d4 h4 3.67/21
[34...Qd7 2.26/21 might work better. 35.Qe4 h4]

35.Bd6 Qd8 36.c5 Bd5 37.Nc4 Qg5

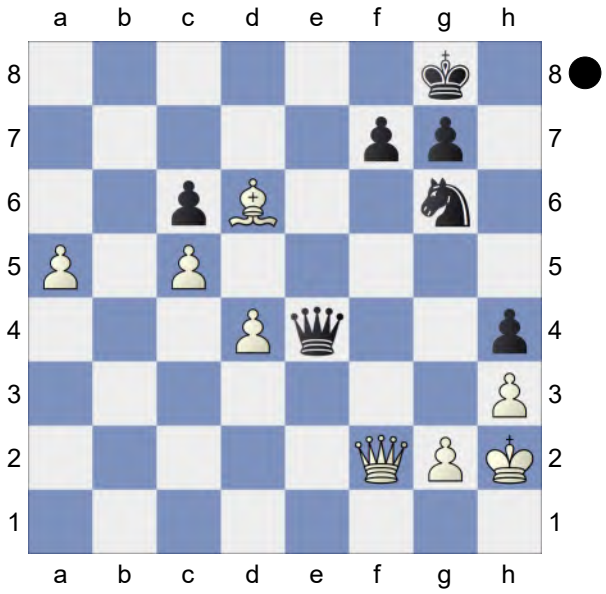
(Diagram)



38.Qf2 Qc1 3.79/24
[⌓38...Nf8 2.69/21 39.Nb6 Ne6 40.Nxd5 Qxd5 41.Qxh4 Nxd4]

39.Ne3 Be4 40.a4 Qa3 4.80/24
[40...Qb1 3.26/21 keeps fighting. 41.Nc4 Bd3]

41.Nc4 Qxb3 42.Nd2 Qd5 43.Nxe4 Qxe4 44.a5



And now a6 would win. **44...Qd3 45.Qa2** Against Qa3 **45...Qa6 46.d5 cxd5 47.Qxd5** 0.76/26
[47.Qa1+- 5.15/23 is more deadly. Black must now prevent Qc3. Kh7

48.Qd4]
47...Qxa5± 48.Qe4 Qd8 Prevents Qe8+. **49.Qd5** 0.01/24 &Bianco is much more active.
[Better is 49.Qb7± 1.46/30]
49...Qa5!= 50.Qe4 0.01/20
[50.Qc6± 1.25/28 Qd8 51.Qb7]
50...Qd8 51.Qf5 Against Qd7 **51...Qa5?** 5.54/27
[51...Qa8± 0.98/26 is more resistant. 52.Qd3 Qc6]
52.Qc8+? 1.51/21
[52.Qd7+- 5.54/27 Strongly threatening c6. Kh7 53.Qxf7]
52...Kh7± 53.Qf5? -0.01/22
[53.Qb7+- 1.62/26 Qa2 54.Qe4]
53...Qd8? 5.54/27
[53...Kg8= -0.01/22 and Black stays safe.]
54.Qxf7+- Qg5 55.Qf3 5.49/27
[⌓55.Qe6 14.23/28]
55...Ne5 56.Qe4+ Ng6 57.c6 Qf6 58.Qd5 5.51/23
[⌓58.Qd3 17.30/27 Qe6 59.c7]
58...Nf4 59.Qe4+ 0.01/21
[59.Qd1+- 5.53/26 Hoping for c7. Ne6 60.c7 Nxc7 61.Qc2+ Qg6 62.Qxc7]
59...Ng6= 60.Bb8 3.17/26
[60.Qd3 14.18/28 Qe6 61.c7]
60...Qd8? 14.22/28
[60...Kh8 3.17/26 61.Bf4 Nxf4]
61.Bf4+- Qc8 62.c7 Kg8 63.Qd5+ Kh7 64.Qh5+ Kg8 65.Qxg6 Qf8 66.Qg4 Kh7 67.c8Q Qf7 68.Qgf5+ Qxf5 69.Qxf5+ g6 70.Qg5 17.13/5
[⌓70.Qf7+ #2/6 Kh8 71.Be5#]
70...Kg7 71.Be5+ Kf7 72.Qf6+ Ke8 73.Qxg6+ White mates. **73...Ke7 74.Qg4 Ke8 75.Qxh4 Kd7 76.Qg4+ Kc6 77.Qg3 Kb5 78.Qf3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.96/Black=0.58
1-0

127 **C00**
□ **Wang,Hao** **2703**
■ **Wang,Yue** **2640**
Chengdu Chess King 2nd rapid (2.2)
[Kitty Kat]

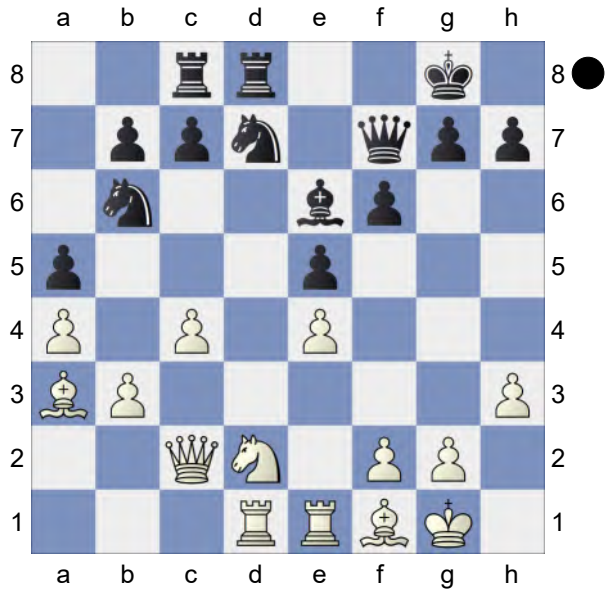
C00: French: Unusual White 2nd moves This game was played in one of the most crucial matches in the past season of the Bundesliga. A win for the team in this match would almost surely mean that the team remained in the league. In such a situation one might think that a solid game and a draw with Black would be a good result. However I felt that my board was one of those where we had chances to achieve more and I'm not a fan of draws either. When I suggested a pawn sacrifice on the third move as Black vs the solid Alapin Sicilian some of my team mates were a bit sceptical. However since I had a lot of concrete lines to back it up with my choice of opening was finally accepted. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 dxe4 8.dxe4 Qe7** 8...a5 deserves study. 8...a5 verdient Beachtung. **9.h3 a5 10.a4 Nb8 11.Re1 Rd8 12.Qc2 Nbd7 13.Nb3N**
[13.Bf1 b6 14.Nc4 Ba6 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bh4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Nf8 18.Bg3 Ng6 19.Nh4 Nxh4 20.Bxh4 Rd7 0-1 Zumsande,M (2432)-Berg,E (2555) Bundesliga 1415 2014 (13.6)]
[13.Nh4 g6 14.Nb3 Bb6 15.Bg5 Nf8 16.Nf3 Ne6 17.Bh6 c6 18.Bc4 Bc7 19.Nc1 Ne8 20.Nd3 f6 21.Rad1 Kh8 22.Ba2 N6g7 23.Nd2 Be6 24.Bxe6 Nxe6 25.Be3 Nd6 26.b4 Kg7 27.bxa5 Rxa5 1-0 Bruzon Batista,L (2617)-Roussel Roozmon,T (2462) CAN Transnational op 2023 (7)

28.c4 Nf7 29.c5 Raa8 30.Nf3 Ba5 31.Re2 Rd7 32.Rb1 Rad8 33.Rb3 Nc7 34.g3 Na6 35.Qc4 Re8 36.Reb2 Red8 37.Kg2 Rc8 38.Nc1 Nd8 39.g4 Ne6 40.Nd3 g5 41.h4 h6 42.Rxb7 Rxb7 1-0 Bruzon Batista, L (2610)-Andersson,U (2594) La 87/146 Havana 2003]

13...Bb6 14.Bf1 Nf8 15.Nfd2 Be6 16.Nc4 N6d7N

[16...Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Ne6 18.g3 h6 19.Kg2 Rd7 20.Nd2? -1.73/22 *(20.Qe2=* -0.01/19 and White has nothing to worry.*)* 20...Qc5-+ 21.Nf3 and Bc4xe6 would now be decisive Qxc4 22.Nxe5 Qc5 23.Nxd7 Nxd7 0-1 Anand,V (2757)-Vidit,S (2722) Tata Steel India blitz 2019 (14)]

17.Nxb6 Nxb6 18.Nd2 Nfd7 19.b3! f6 20.Ba3 Qf7 21.Rad1 Rac8 22.c4



Nb8 23.Nf3 0.08/19

[23.c5± 0.63/20 N6d7 24.Qc3]

23...Nc6= 24.Qc3 Nd7 25.Rd2 Ndb8 26.Red1 Qe8 27.Bc5 Rxd2 28.Rxd2 Rd8 29.Be3 Rxd2 0.57/21

[29...Nb4= 0.01/22]

30.Qxd2 -0.01/20

[30.Nxd2± 0.57/21 Qg6 31.Kh2]

30...Qd7 31.Qxd7 -0.56/22

[31.Qc1= 0.01/20]

31...Nxd7∓

[31...Bxd7 simplifies 32.Be2 Kf7 33.Bd1 Na6]

32.Ne1 Nd4 33.Bxd4 exd4 Endgame KBN-KBN **34.Nd3** -1.30/23 Repels Nd7-c5

[White should try 34.Nc2!∓ -0.37/21]

34...g5 -0.77/22

[⌓34...Kf7 -1.30/23 35.f4 Ke7]

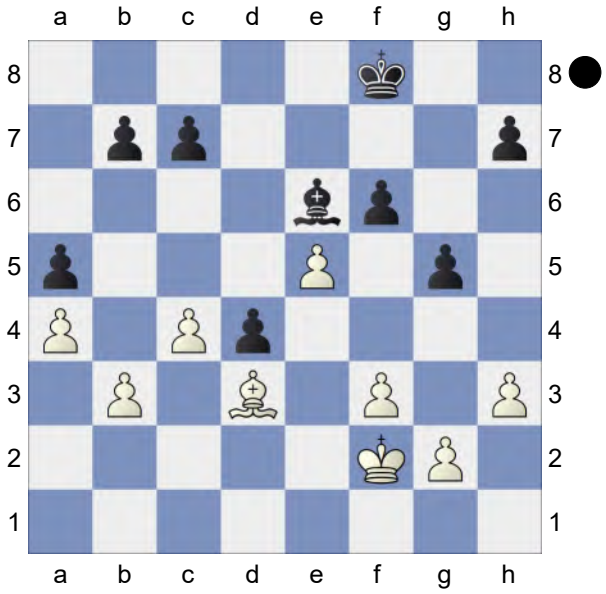
35.f3 -1.31/23

[⌓35.g3 -0.77/22]

35...Ne5 -0.91/22

[⌓35...Kf7 -1.31/23 36.Kf2 Ke7]

36.Kf2 Nxd3+ 37.Bxd3∓ KB-KB **37...Kf8 38.e5**



Discovered Attack **38...h6** -0.01/24

[38...fxe5∓ -0.70/23 39.Bxh7 Ke7]

39.exf6= Kf7 40.f4! Kxf6 41.Kf3 b6 42.g4 Bd7 43.Be4 Be8 44.Bd5 -0.51/25

[44.Bc2= -0.01/28]

44...gxf4 -0.01/23

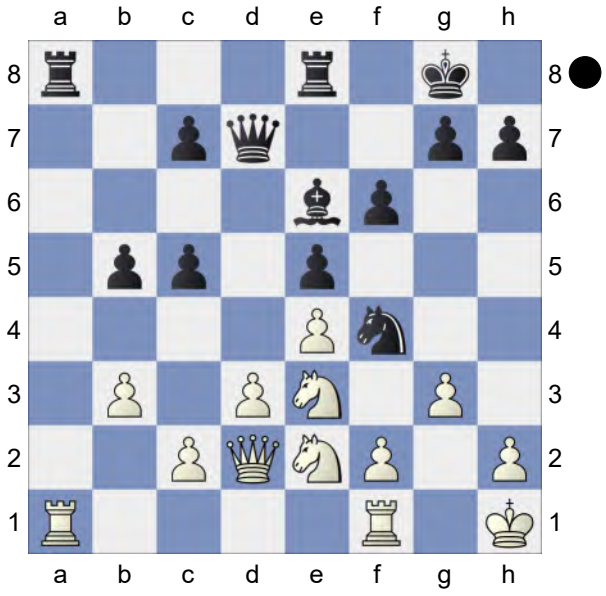
[44...c6!∓ -0.51/25 45.Be4 b5]

45.Kxf4 The position is equal. **45...Bg6 46.Be4 d3 47.Bf3 d2 48.Bd1** Wards off Bg6-c2 **48...c5 49.h4**

[49.Ke3 Kg5 50.Kxd2 Kf4∓]
49...Bh7 50.g5+ hxg5+ 51.hxg5+ Ke6
[51...Kg6!?]
52.Bg4+ Kd6 53.Bd1 Prevents Bh7-c2.
53...Ke6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
[53...Bg6!?]
½-½

128 **C65**
□ **Ivanchuk,Vasyl** **2630**
■ **Artemiev,Vladislav** **2701**
Masters Open 2024 (6.7) 09.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

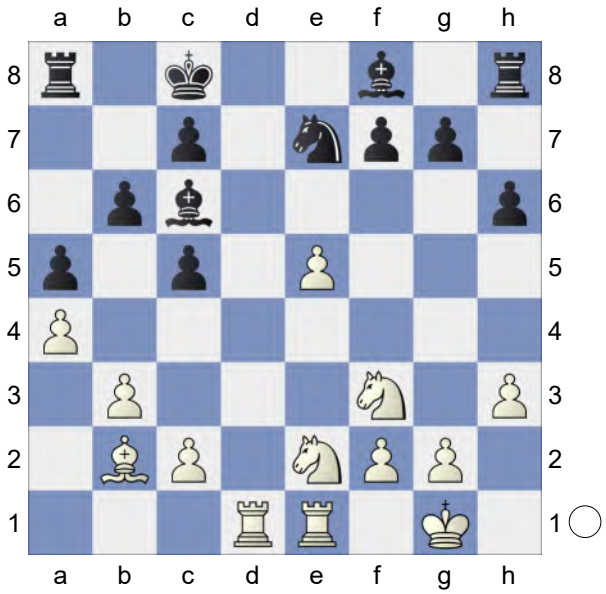
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? perishes. Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.a4N
[7.c3 0-0 *(7...a5 8.Bg5 f6 9.Bh4 Bd6 10.d4 Qe7 11.Nbd2 g5 12.Bg3 h5 13.h4 g4 14.dxe5 fxe5 15.Ng5 Nb6 16.a4 Bd7 17.b4 c5 18.bxa5 Rxa5 19.Qb3 Bxa4 20.Qa2 Ra6 21.Rfb1 Bc6 22.Qb3* 1-0 Carlsen,M (2859)-So,W (2760) Meltwater Tour Final chess24.com INT rapid 2022 (1.3) *)* 8.d4 Bd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 Qe8 11.Nbd2 Nb6 12.Bg3 c5 *(12...exd4 13.Nxd4 Bxg3 14.hxg3 a5 15.Re1 a4 16.Qc2 Qf7 17.b3 c5 18.N4f3 Bg4 19.Nf1 Nd7 20.Ne3 Be6 21.c4 Nb8 22.bxa4 Nc6 23.Nd5 Rfe8 24.e5 Bxd5 25.cxd5 Nxe5 26.Nxe5 fxe5 27.Qxc5* ½-½ Paskulj,K (2649)-16.Qd2 Re8 17.Kh1 (2675) FRA-ch 54th Courchevel 1979 (2)) 13.d5 Bg4 14.c4 Nc8 15.h3 Bh5 16.Qb3 b6 17.Nh4 Ne7 18.Nf5 Qd7 19.Nxe7+ Qxe7 20.Rfe1 Be8 21.Nf1 Bd7 ½-½ Nasuta,G (2542)-Omelja,A (2441) CZE-chT 2223 Czech Republic 2022 (2.2)]
[7.Nc3 Qe7 8.Ne2 h5 9.a3 Bd6 10.Be3 b6 11.Nd2 h4 12.h3 g5 13.Nc4 Nf8 14.Nxd6+ cxd6 15.d4 g4 16.hxg4 Bxg4 17.f3 Be6 18.Qd3 f6 19.f4 Rg8 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.fxe5 fxe5 1-0 Grube,J (2764)-Sudgen,J (2760) Cheliabinsk Lozovatsky Memorial-A 2023 (7.6)]
[7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nc4 Re8 9.a4 a5 10.Kh1 b6 11.h3 f6 12.Nh4 Nf8 13.Be3 Bxe3 14.fxe3 Be6 15.Nd2 c5 16.b3 Nd7 17.Rf2 g6 18.Qg1 Qe7 19.g4 Kh8 20.Qg3 Rf8 21.Raf1 Rf7 0-1 Durarbayli,V (2628)-Martirosyan,H (2666) Tashkent President op 2nd Toshkent 2022 (9)]
7...0-0 8.a5 Re8 9.Nbd2 Nf8 10.Nc4 Ng6 11.Bd2 f6 12.Kh1 Be6 13.Be3 Bxe3 0.00/24
[13...Bf8∓ -0.49/22]
14.Nxe3= The position is equal. **14...c5 15.Ng1 b5 16.axb6 axb6 17.Ne2 Qd7 18.Qd2 Nf4 19.b3 b5 20.g3**



And now Rxa8 would win. **20...Rxa1 21.Rxa1 Nh3 22.Ng1 Nxg1 23.Kxg1 c4! 24.bxc4 bxc4 25.h4 cxd3 26.cxd3 c5 27.Qc2 h5 28.Ra3 Rc8 29.Ra6 Rc6 30.Ra5 Kh7 31.Nd5 Qd6 32.Rb5 Rc8 33.Rb6 Rc6 34.Rxc6 Qxc6 35.Ne3 Qd6 36.Qe2 g6 37.Qc2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

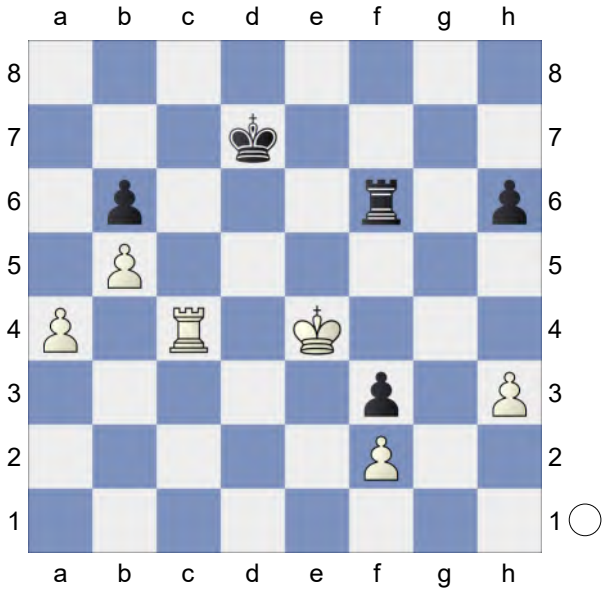
129 **C67**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2763**
■ **Antipov,Mikhail Al** **2591**
Wch Rapid New York (2) 26.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 h6 10.Nc3 Bd7 11.b3 Kc8 12.Bb2 b6 13.Rad1 a5 14.a4 c5 15.Rfe1 Ne7 16.Ne2** White has an edge. **16...Bc6N** 0.83/19
[16...Bf5= 0.00/20 keeps the balance. 17.Rd2 Ng6]
[16...Ng6 17.h4 h5 *(17...Bg4 18.Nh2 Bf5 19.h5 Ne7 20.Rd2 Rg8 21.Nf4 Be6 22.c4 Kb7 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Rd7 Nc6 25.Re4 Re8 26.Rg4 Kc8 27.Rd3 Ne7 28.Kf1 Nf5 29.Nf3 Rd8 30.Ke2 Be7 31.Rg6 Rxd3 32.Kxd3* 1-0 Negi,P (2620)-Milov,V (2652) FIDE World Cup 2009 (1.1) *)* 18.g3 Be7 19.c4 Bf5 20.Nc3 Kb7 21.Nd2 c6 22.Nf1 Bg4 23.Rc1 Rad8 24.Nd1 Rhe8 25.Nde3 Rd3 26.Bc3 Bc8 8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10. g4_-Mitrovic,P Cap d'(rapid) 98/(123) 2006]



17.e6!± White is more active. **17...Bxf3**
[17...f6 18.Nh4]
18.gxf3 Rh7 2.13/21
[18...fxe6± 1.11/19 19.Nf4 Nf5]
19.Nc3+-
[19.exf7 g5±]
19...Nf5 20.exf7 Black is weak on the light squares **20...Nd4 21.Re8+ Kb7 22.Nb5 g5 23.Bxd4 cxd4 24.Rxa8** Deflection
[24.Rxd4 Rxf7 25.Rxa8 Kxa8±]
24...Kxa8 25.Nxc7+ Endgame KRB-KRN. White is two pawns up. **25...Kb8 26.Ne6 Rxf7 27.Rxd4 Bb4 28.Kg2 Rf6 29.Re4 Kc8 30.f4 Kd7 31.Nd4**
[31.fxg5 Rxe6 32.Rxe6 Kxe6 33.gxh6 Kf6∓]
31...gxf4 32.Kf3 Bd6 33.c3 Bc7 34.Re1 Bd6 35.Rg1 Be5 36.Rg7+ Kd6 37.Ke4 f3 4.34/25
[⌓37...Bxd4 2.74/23 38.Kxd4 *(38.cxd4 Re6+ 39.Kf3 Kd5+-)* 38...Kc6]
38.Nb5+
[38.Nxf3? perishes. Rf4+ *(38...Bxc3 39.Rg4±)* 39.Ke3 Rxf3+ *(39...Bxg7 40.Kxf4 Bxc3 41.Ke3±)* 40.Kxf3 Bxg7-+]

38...Ke6 39.Nc7+ Bxc7 40.Rxc7 KR-KR. White is a pawn up. **40...Kd6** Against Rc7-c6+ **41.Rc4 Rf8 42.b4 axb4 43.cxb4 Rf6?** 5.51/24
[43...Ra8 3.15/23 might work better. 44.b5 *(44.Kxf3 Rxa4 45.Kg4 b5±; 44.Rd4+ Ke6+-)* 44...h5 45.Kxf3 Kd5]
44.b5 Rc4-c6+ is the strong threat.
44...Kd7

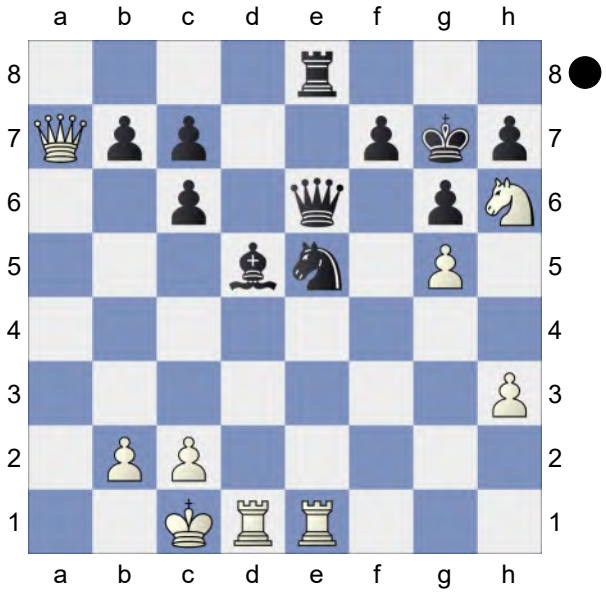


45.Rc6! White took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.43
1-0

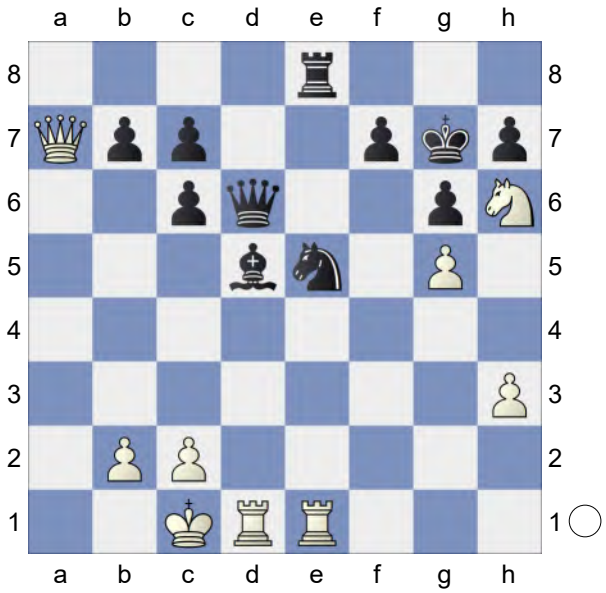
130 **C48**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2737**
■ **Nihal,Sarin** **2669**
Bullet Chess Losers blitz (4.3) 12.06.24
[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nc3**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.h3 0-0
[7...Bd6 8.Be3 Qe7 9.Ne2 b6 10.0-0 g6 11.Nd2 Bb7 12.Nc4 0-0-0 13.Nxd6+ Qxd6 14.f4 f5 15.exf5 gxf5 16.fxe5 Nxe5 17.Bf4 Rhg8 18.Rf2 c5 19.Qf1 Qf6 20.Bxe5 Qxe5 21.b3 Qe3 22.Nf4 ½-½ Nihal,S (2673)-Harikrishna,P (2704) FRA-chT Top 16 GpB 2023 (4.4)]
8.Qe2N Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[8.Be3 Bd6 9.Ne2 Re8 10.g4 Nf8 11.Ng3 Ne6 12.Nf5 g6 *(12...c5 13.h4 a5 14.h5 Ra6 15.Qd2 Nd4 16.Rh3 Bf8 17.0-0-0 Be6 18.Kb1 f6 19.c3 Nxf3 20.Rxf3 c4 21.Qc2 cxd3 22.Rxd3 Qc8 23.g5 fxg5 24.Bxg5 Bf7 25.h6 gxh6 26.Bc1 Qe6 27.b3* 1-0 Deslandes,P (2799)-Buchicchio,G (2782) Malmoe 45/566 1987 (5)*)* 13.Nh6+ Kg7 14.g5 c5 15.Ng4 Nd4 16.Nfh2 Be7 17.h4 f5 18.gxf6+ Bxf6 19.c3 Ne6 20.Qf3 Nf4 21.0-0-0 h5 22.Nxe5 Bxe5 1-0 Altschuler,J (2239)-Apaar,S (2051) Budapest SixDays 08 IM 2023 (1) 23.Bxf4 Qxh4 24.Bxe5+ Rxe5 25.Qe3 Qf6 26.Rdg1 Bd7 27.Nf3 Ree8 28.Rxh5 Rh8 29.Rhg5 Rh6 30.Ne5 Be8 31.Ng4 Rh3 32.Nxf6 Rxe3 33.Nxe8+ Rxe8 34.Rxg6+ Kh7 35.fxe3 1-0 Hummel,E (2239)-Rupsys,R (2051) 13. ♘c4 ♘b6_115831 1995 (1)]
8...Re8 The position is equal. **9.Be3 Bd6N**
[Vorgänger: 9...Bf8 10.0-0-0 c5 11.h4 b6 0.59/19 *(11...Nb8=* 0.00/18 *)* 12.h5± Nb8 13.Rdg1 Nc6 14.g4 Nd4 15.Qd1 Qd6 1-0 Firouzja,A (2728)-Belyakov,B (2481) Titled Tuesday intern op 30th June blitz 2020 (2)]
10.0-0-0 Nf8 0.32/18
[10...b5∓ -0.33/18]
11.d4± exd4 12.Bxd4 0.01/18

[12.Nxd4± 0.53/19 Qf6 13.f3]
12...Qe7 13.Rhe1 Ne6 14.Be3 Nf4 15.Qf1 Ng6 16.Nd4 Bb4 17.Bd2 Be6 1.06/20
[17...Qd6= 0.23/17 18.a3 Ba5 *(18...Qxd4 19.Be3=; 18...Bxc3 19.Bxc3 f6 20.Kb1±)*]
18.Nf5 -0.21/19
[18.f4± 1.06/20 Bd7 19.a3 Bxc3 20.Bxc3]
18...Qf6 1.31/19
[18...Qc5= -0.21/19]
19.g4!± Rad8? 3.53/20
[19...Ne5± 1.42/18]
20.f4? 0.49/17
[Only move: 20.e5!+- 3.53/20 Nxe5 21.Ne4]
20...Rxd2? 21.Kxd2
[21.Rxd2 Bxc3 22.bxc3 Qxc3∓ *(22...Bxa2? 23.Kb2+-)*]
21...Bxa2 22.e5 Qe6 23.Qd3 -0.48/18 Wards off Qe6-d5
[23.Kc1+- 1.70/18]
23...Bc4 0.92/20
[23...Nxf4∓ -0.48/18 stays ahead. 24.Qd4 Nd5 *(24...Nxh3? 25.Qxb4 Nf2 26.Ra1+-)*]
24.Qe3 0.41/16
[Better is 24.Qg3± 0.92/20]
24...Bd5 1.50/18
[24...Qd5+!± 0.41/16 25.Kc1 Qa5]
25.Kc1
[25.Qxa7 Bf3 *(25...Nxf4 26.Qd4±)* 26.Ra1 c5-+ *(26...Nxf4 27.Ke3±)*]
25...Bxc3 26.Qxc3 0.49/17
[26.bxc3+- 1.64/19 aiming for Kc1-b2!. a5 27.Qd4]
26...Nxf4± 27.Qd2 Ng6
[27...Nxh3? 28.Qe3+-]
28.Qf2 0.01/18 Dodges Bd5-f3
[28.b3± 0.54/18]
28...Nxe5= 29.Qxa7 g6 30.Nh6+ -1.60/20
[30.Nd4= 0.25/19 Qc8 31.Kb1]
30...Kg7∓ 31.g5



Qd6? 2.33/20
[31...Bf3!∓ -1.38/19 keeps the pressure on. 32.Ng4 Rd8]

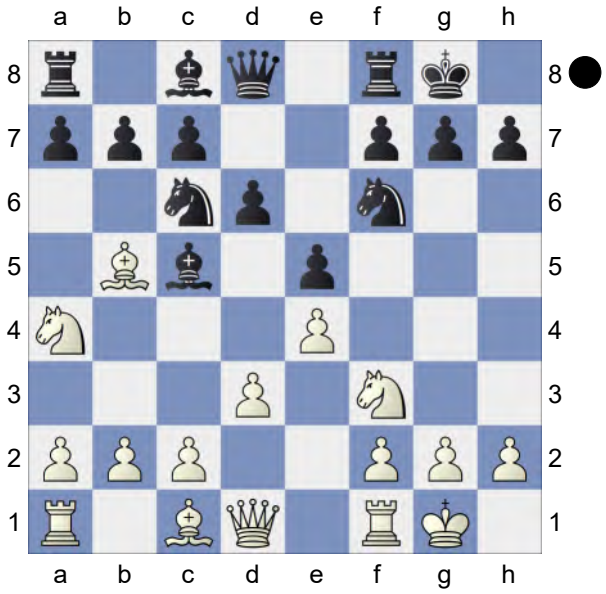


32.Qf2? -1.42/23
[Stronger than 32.Qxb7 Qc5 33.Kb1 *(33.Qxc7? perishes. Bb3-+)* 33...Qa5-+]
[32.Ng4!+- 2.33/20]
32...Qf8? #1/6
[32...Ra8∓ -1.42/23 33.Kb1 Nf3

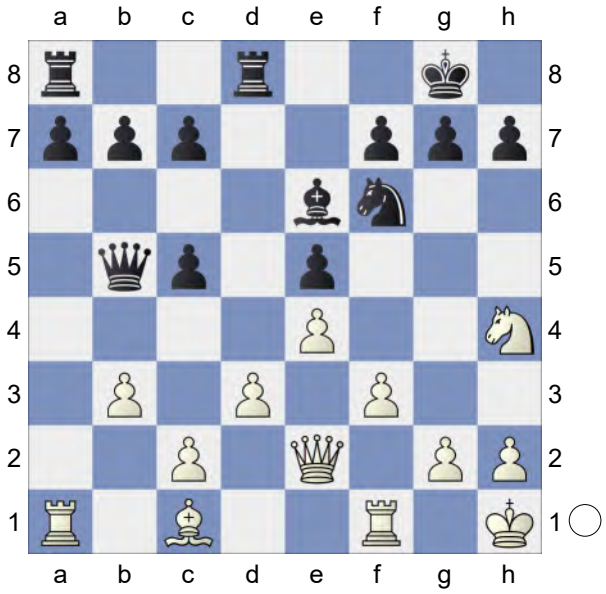
34.Qxf3 Bxf3 35.Rxd6 cxd6]
33.Qf6# Weighted Error Value: White=0.69/Black=0.81
1-0

131 **C65**
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2743**
■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2747**
6th Prague Masters 2024 (3.4) 29.02.24
[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 Inf 90/(286) **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.Nc3 0-0 7.Na4**



Nd4 8.Nxc5 Nxb5 9.a4! White is slightly better. **9...dxc5**
[9...Nd4 10.Nxd4 dxc5 11.Nb5 Ne8 12.f4 c6 13.Nc3 exf4 14.Bxf4 Nc7 15.Be3 Ne6 16.Ne2 Nd4 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.Qe1 Qd6 19.Qh4 Qe5 20.Rf3 Bd7 21.Raf1 c5 22.b3 Rae8 23.Nf4 f6 24.Nh5 1-0 Svidler,P (2747)-Kramnik,V (2777) Monaco (rapid) 2004]
10.axb5 Qd6N
[10...Re8 11.Be3 b6 12.Qd2 Bg4 13.Ne1 Bd7 14.c4 c6 15.bxc6 Bxc6 16.b4 cxb4 17.Qxb4 Ng4 18.Bd2 a5 19.Qb2 Qc7 20.Bc3 f6 21.Nc2 Reb8 22.f3 Nh6 23.Na3 b5 24.cxb5 Bxb5 25.Nxb5 ½-½ Hetenyi,G (2388)-Kublis,A (2501) Dorpat-Tallinn match 1885 (1) Qc5+ 26.d4 exd4 27.Bxd4 Qxb5 28.Qxb5 Rxb5 29.Ra4 Nf7 30.Bc3 Nd6 31.Rfa1 Nb7 32.Kf2 Kf7 33.g4 h5 34.h3 hxg4 35.hxg4 Kg6 36.Ke2 Ra6 37.R1a2 Ra8 38.Kf2 Ra6 39.Kg2 Ra8 40.Ra1 1-0 Cornette,M (2565)-Fantinel,T (2401) Montendre Blitz op 2023 (4)]
11.Nh4 Rd8 12.Qe2 Bg4 13.f3 Be6 14.b3 Qb6 15.Kh1 Qxb5

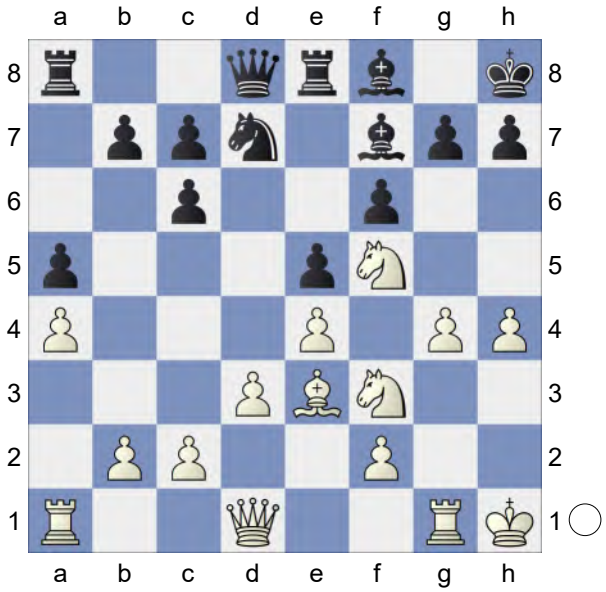


16.Bg5! a5 17.Qe3 Bxf6 would now be deadly. **17...a4 18.bxa4 Rxa4 19.Rxa4** 0.39/23
[Better is 19.Rab1± 1.38/22 Qd7 20.Bxf6 Deflection *(20.Rxb7 Qe7±; 20.Qxc5 Qd6±)* 20...gxf6 21.Qh6 *(21.Qxc5 b6±; 21.Rxb7 c4±)*]
19...Qxa4± 20.Qxc5 Qc6 21.Qxc6 bxc6 22.f4 exf4 23.Bxf4 Rc8 24.Be3 Ra8 25.Nf3 Ra2 0.58/25
[25...Nd7= 0.13/22]
26.Rc1 Nd7 27.Bf4 c5 28.Bxc7 h6

29.Kg1 f5 30.Nd2 0.16/22
[30.exf5± 0.56/22 was preferable. Bxf5 31.Bf4]
30...fxe4= 31.Nxe4 c4! The position is equal. **32.d4 Bf5 33.Nc3 Rxc2 34.Rxc2 Bxc2 35.Kf2 Kf7 36.Ke3 Nf6 37.d5 Be4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless) **38.Nxe4**
½-½

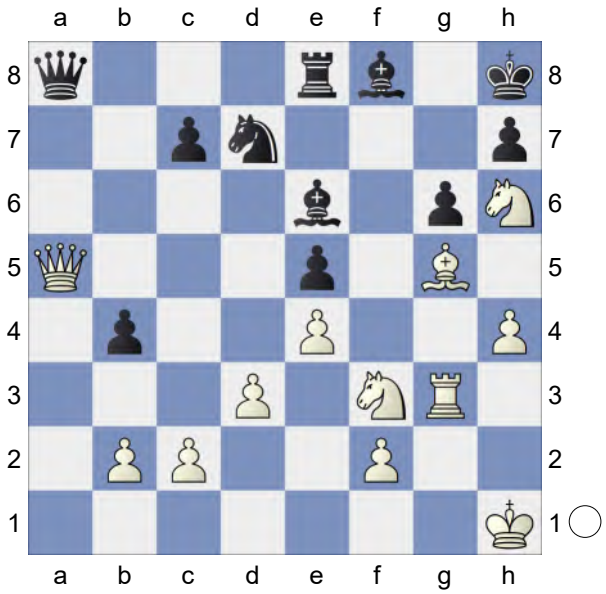
132 **C65**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2728**
■ **Fressinet,Laurent** **2588**
Chessable Masters Play In blitz (2)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Bd6 7.a4!?N Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 Bg4 *(8...Be6 9.Nbd2 g5 10.Bg3 Nd7 11.d4 Qf6 12.Re1 0-0-0 13.c4 g4 14.c5 Bxc5 15.dxc5 gxf3 16.Qxf3 Qe7 17.b4 h5 18.h4 Rhg8 19.Qc3 Rg4 20.a4 Rdg8 21.Nf3 Rxg3 22.fxg3 Rxg3 23.Qe3* 1-0 Firouzja,A (2778)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2792) Saint Louis 154/14 2022*)* 9.Nbd2 g5 10.Bg3 Nh5 11.Nc4 Nxg3 *(11...Nf4 12.h3 Bh5 13.Bxf4 exf4 14.d4 Qd7 15.c3 f6 16.Re1* 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Bd6-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Bd6*)* 12.fxg3 Qe7 13.h3 Bd7 14.Nxd6+ cxd6 15.Nd2 Be6 16.Qh5 0-0-0 17.Rf2 Kb8 18.Raf1 Qc7 19.Kh2 Qa5 20.a3 Qc5 21.Nc4 Bxc4 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Bd6-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Bd6]
[7.Nbd2 Be6 8.b3 Qe7 9.Bb2 Nd7 10.a4 0-0-0 11.a5 a6 12.Nc4 f6 13.Nxd6+ cxd6 14.d4 d5 15.exd5 Bxd5 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 fxe5 18.Qg4+ Kb8 19.Qg3 Ka8 20.Rfe1 e4 21.Qxg7 Qc5 0-1 Krzywda,A (2208)-Liu,C (2289) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Late blitz 2024 (7)]
7...Bg4N
[7...Be6 8.a5 h6 9.Nbd2 Nd7 10.Qe2 0-0 11.Nc4 Re8 12.h3 c5 13.b3 b5 14.axb6 axb6 15.Rxa8 Qxa8 ½-½ Robson,R (2699)-Dominguez Perez,L (2745) USA-ch Saint Louis 2023 (10)]
8.h3 White has an edge. **8...Bh5 9.Nbd2 Nd7 10.Nc4 0-0 11.g4 Bg6 12.Kh1 f6 13.Ne3 Re8** 0.43/19
[13...Nc5= 0.05/17 is more appropriate.]
14.Nf5± Bf8 15.Be3 a5 16.Rg1 Kh8 17.h4 White has more active pieces.
17...Bf7



18.Rg3 0.22/19
[18.h5!± 0.94/20]
18...b5 0.94/21
[18...g6= 0.22/19]

19.Qd2 0.52/19
[19.h5± 0.94/21]
19...g6 20.Nh6 Be6 21.axb5 cxb5 22.Rxa5 Rxa5 23.Qxa5 b4 0.97/19
[23...Qa8± 0.50/19 24.Qxa8 *(24.Qxc7? Rc8-+* Skewer*; 24.Qxb5? c6-+)* 24...Rxa8]
24.g5± fxg5 1.53/22
[24...Bxh6 0.91/22 25.gxh6 c5 26.Qxd8 Rxd8]
25.Bxg5 0.74/22
[⌓25.hxg5 1.53/22 Qa8 26.Qxa8 *(26.Qxc7 Rc8∓)* 26...Rxa8 27.Rg1]
25...Qa8



26.Qxa8
[26.Qxc7 Kg7= *(26...Rc8 27.Bf6+* Decoy *Nxf6 28.Qxe5±)*]
26...Rxa8 27.d4 0.42/22
[27.h5± 0.96/23]
27...Ra2? 2.25/22
[Better is 27...exd4± 0.42/22 28.Nxd4 Bc4]
28.Nxe5+- Black must now prevent d4-d5!.
[Inferior is 28.dxe5 c5=]
[Not 28.d5 Bg8±]
28...Nxe5 29.Bf6+ Bg7 30.dxe5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.35
1-0

133 **C65**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2832**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Early ..
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.h3 Qe7!** is now more promising than 6...0-0. im Vergleich zu 6...0-0 vielversprechender. **7.Nbd2**
[7.0-0 Rg8 8.Re1 g5 9.d4 Bd6 10.c4 g4 11.hxg4 Bb4 12.g5 Bxe1 13.gxf6 Bxf2+ 14.Kxf2 Qxf6 15.dxe5 Qg6 16.Bg5 Be6 17.Nbd2 h6 18.Bf6 Qxg2+ 19.Ke3 Bg4 20.Qe2 Bxf3 21.Nxf3 Qxe2+ 4.h3 ♘f6 5.♘f3 00 6. ♗e2 (2510)-Aberdeen,B (2252) Kemeri 2023 CBM 79_02 [John Watson] 1-0 (35)]
7...Nd7
[7...0-0 8.Nc4 Nd7 9.Qe2 b5 10.Ne3 Nb6 11.Nf5 Bxf5 12.exf5 Nd7 13.Nd2 Bb4 14.c3 Ba5 15.Ne4 b4 16.0-0 Rfd8 17.cxb4 Bxb4 18.Be3 f6 19.Qc2 Nb6 20.a3 Bd6 21.Qxc6 Qd7 22.Qxd7 Caruana,F (2787)-Nakamura,H (2793) London 2015 CBM 170 [Pavlovic,Milos] ½-½ (45)]
8.Nf1N The position is equal.
[8.a3 -0.24/22 8.c3 0.11 a5 9.Nc4 a4 10.Qe2 0-0 0.10/25 *(10...f6∓* -0.34/26 *)* 11.Ne3!= Nb8 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.exf5 Nd7 14.0-0 1-0 Lagarde,M (2615)-Santos Latasa,J (2574) BEL-chT 1819 2018 (10.1)]
[8.0-0 0-0 9.b3 Rd8 10.Nc4 f6

11.Nh4 Nf8 12.Nf5 Bxf5 13.exf5 e4 14.Re1 Qd7 15.Rxe4 Qxf5 16.Qe2 Erdogdu,M (2463)-Panteleev,P (2317) Pardubice 2009 Informant 106 [RR]]

8...f6 9.Be3 -0.63/22

[9.c3= -0.15/25]

9...b6 10.Qd2 a5 11.a3 Bd6 12.Ng3 g6 Prevents Nf5. **13.0-0 c5 14.Nh2** -0.98/22

[14.Qc3= -0.30/24 keeps the balance.]

14...Bb7∓ 15.f4 -1.33/21

[⌓15.Ne2 -0.90/23]

15...0-0-0 -0.68/22

[Better is 15...c4∓ -1.33/21 Strongly threatening ...exf4. 16.Ne2 0-0]

16.f5 -1.32/18

[16.b3!∓ -0.68/22]

16...g5 -0.15/30

[16...c4!∓ -1.32/18]

17.Qe2 -0.48/23

[17.b3= -0.15/30]

17...Kb8 0.29/22

[17...c4∓ -0.48/23]

18.b3= Kc8 19.a4 0.00/35

[19.Bf2± 0.48/25]

19...Nb8 20.Nh5 Qf7 21.g4 Nc6 22.h4 -0.39/23

[22.Qd1= -0.03/27 is more appropriate.]

22...h6 0.00/26

[22...gxh4∓ -0.39/23 23.Qf2 Be7]

23.Qf2 Be7 24.Kg2 -1.20/20

[24.Nf3= -0.25/25]

24...Nb4!∓ 25.Qe2 -1.69/26

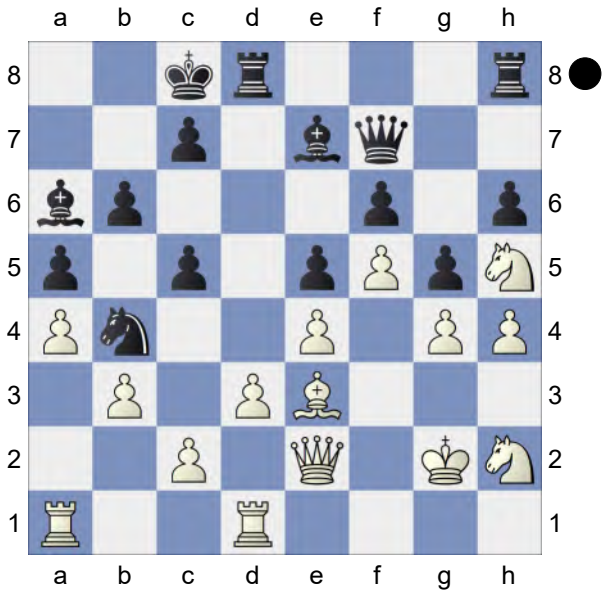
[25.Nf3∓ -1.23/22 was worth a try.]

25...Ba6-+ White must now prevent ... Nxc2!

[Worse is 25...gxh4 26.Nf3∓]

26.Rfd1

(Diagram)



Rd7 -0.29/26

[Reject 26...gxh4?! 27.Nf3=]

[Black should play 26...Nxd3!∓ -1.37/19 aiming for ...Nf4+. 27.cxd3 Qxb3]

27.Rd2? -3.34/20 This move loses the game for White.

[27.hxg5= -0.29/26 and White is okay. hxg5 28.Nf3]

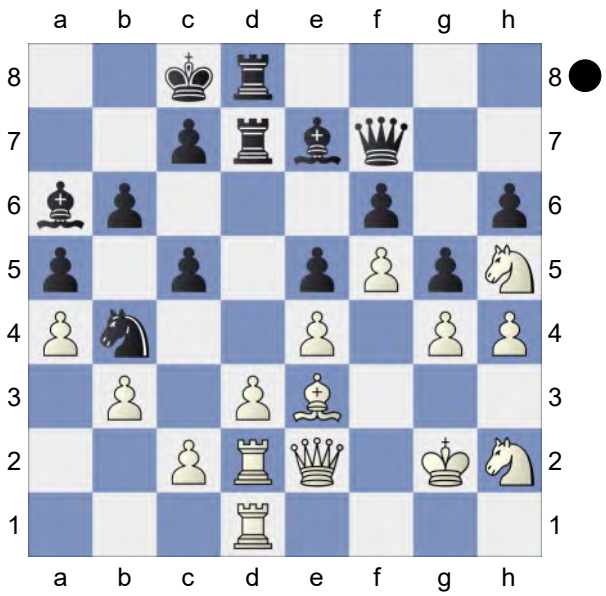
27...Rhd8 And now ...Nxc2! would win.

[Inferior is 27...gxh4 28.c4∓]

28.Rad1 -4.17/21

[⌓28.Qf2 -2.77/24 gxh4 29.Kh3]

(Diagram)



28...Nxc2! 29.Rxc2 Hoping for Rc3. **29...Bxd3 30.Rxd3 Rxd3 31.Nf1 Qxb3** Black is clearly winning. **32.Ng7 Qxa4 33.Kf3 Qb3 34.Ne6 R8d7 35.Rc1 a4 36.Ra1 a3 37.hxg5 hxg5 38.Kf2 c4 39.Ra2 Bb4 40.Qc2 Qxc2+ 41.Rxc2 Rb3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.49/ Black=0.19 (very precise)
0-1

134 **C90**
□ **Gurel,Ediz** **2624**
■ **Nguyen,Thai Dai Van** **2668**
Tata Steel-B 87th (5) 22.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C90: Closed Ruy Lopez with 7...d6: Early deviations **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 0-0 7.c3 a6**
[7...Bd7 8.Ba4 Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.dxe5 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 dxe5 14.Qg3 Nc6 15.Nc3 Nh5 16.Qh3 Nf6 17.Be3 Qc8 18.Qg3 Ng4 19.Bc1 Nf6 20.Bd1 Kh8 21.Be3 Bb4 22.Bg5 ½-½ King, D (2446)-Ballin,A (2530) Izhevsk Corporation Cup-A 4th 2012 (9.2)]
8.Ba4N
[8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Qc2 c5 13.Be3 c4 14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Bg4 16.Nd2 Qd7 17.Nf1 Bf5 18.Qd2 Rab8 19.Bg5 Ba3 20.Ng3 Bg6 21.f4 h6 22.Bf6 Qg4 0-1 Intro Be3 (2584)-Rudolph,J (2643) 305 Linz 2014 (5.4) 23.f5 Rb2 24.Qe3 Bxf5 25.h3 Qg6 26.Qf3 Be6 27.Bh4 Rfb8 28.Rf1 Qd3 29.Qf4 Qd2 30.Qf3 Qd3 31.Qf4 g5 32.Bxg5 hxg5 33.Qxg5+ Qg6 34.Qxg6+ fxg6 35.Rf6 Rb1+ 36.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 37.Kf2 Rb6 ½-½ Karjakin,S (2788)-Ivanchuk,V (2768) WchT 8th Ningbo 2011 (6.1)]
8...Re8 9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.Nf1 h6 11.Ng3 b5 12.Bb3 Be6 12...Ne7 is a critical line. 12...Se7 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. **13.a4** -0.17/20
[13.Bxe6± 0.41/18 Rxe6 14.a4]
13...b4 0.48/20
[13...Bxb3= -0.17/20 14.Qxb3 Na5]
14.Bxe6± Rxe6 White is slightly better. **15.d4 d5 16.dxe5 Nxe4 17.c4 Nxe5 18.cxd5 Nxf2** Decoy **19.Kxf2 Ng4+ 20.Kf1 Rxe1+ 21.Qxe1 Qf6N**
[21...Qxd5 22.Qe4 -0.01/22 Qd1+= 23.Qe1 Qd5! 24.Qe4 -0.01/19 *(24.h3± 0.91/19 Nf6 25.Ne2)* 24...Qd1+= 25.Qe1 ½-½ Vachier Lagrave,M (2780)-Naiditsch,A (2721) Douglas IoM op 2018 (7)]
22.Qe4 Nxh2+ 23.Kg1 Nxf3+ 24.gxf3 Bd6 1.88/21
[24...Rd8± 0.89/20]
25.Nf5+- Rd8 26.Nxd6 0.96/22
[26.Rb1+- 1.80/20]
26...Rxd6± 27.Qe8+ -0.01/5 **Kh7= 28.Qe4+ Kg8 29.Kf2±** 1.03/23
[29.Qxb4? Qxf3-+]
29...c6 30.dxc6 0.01/21

[30.Qxb4± 1.01/20 Strongly threatening Bc1-d2. Rxd5 31.Qb8+ Kh7 32.Qf4]

30...Rxc6 31.Bd2

[31.Qxb4 Rc2+ 32.Bd2 Rxb2∓ *(32...Qxb2 33.Qxb2 Rxb2 34.Ke2+-)*]

31...Qd6 1.24/23

[31...Re6!= 0.16/23 keeps the balance. 32.Qf4 *(32.Qxb4 Qe5=)* 32...Qxb2]

32.Bf4±

[32.Bxb4? Qh2+ 33.Ke3 Re6-+]

32...Qc5+ 33.Kf1 -0.01/25

[33.Be3!± 1.25/22 Qc2+ 34.Ke1 Qxb2 35.Rb1 Qc3+ 36.Bd2 Deflection]

33...Re6= 34.Qd3 Rg6! (→ ...Qc5-g1+) **35.Re1 Qg1+ 36.Ke2 Qg2+ 37.Kd1 Qxb2** Black wants to play ... Qb2-a1+. **38.Qc2** -0.50/23

[38.Re8+= -0.01/22 Kh7 39.Be5]

38...Qd4+ -0.14/21

[38...Qf6∓ -0.50/23 39.Re8+ Kh7]

39.Bd2 Qa1+ 40.Ke2⇄ White is not holding back **40...Qd4 41.Kd1 Qa1+ 42.Ke2 Qf6 43.Qd3** Active counter play! **43...b3 44.Bc3** Dodges Qf6-e5+ **44...Qh4 45.Kd1!**

[45.Qe4? Re6 46.Be5 Qxe4+ 47.fxe4 Rxe5-+]

45...Qxa4 46.Bb2 -0.65/21

[46.Re4!= -0.01/22 Qa3 47.Re8+ Kh7 48.Rb8]

46...Qh4 47.Re8+ Kh7 48.Re4 Prevents a6-a5. **48...Qh2 49.Re2** -1.02/23

[49.Kc1∓ -0.62/21]

49...Qd6∓ 50.Kd2 -2.06/23

[50.Rd2∓ -0.72/21 was the only chance. Qxd3 51.Rxd3]

50...Qb4+ -0.68/22 **51.Kd1 Qd6** -0.01/20 **52.Kd2!= Qb4+?** 0.01/19

[52...a5!-+ -1.96/22 53.Qxd6 Rxd6+ 54.Kc3 g5 *(54...Rf6 55.Kxb3 Rxf3+ 56.Kc4 a4)* 55.Kxb3 h5]

53.Kd1! a5∓ -1.01/23 White must now prevent ...a5-a4. **54.Re4 Qd6 55.Rd4**

[55.Qxd6 Rxd6+ 56.Kc1 Rc6+ 57.Kb1 Rc5]

55...Qh2 -0.36/18

[55...Qc5∓ -0.83/21]

56.Kc1!∓ Qc7+ 0.01/23

[56...Qg1+∓ -0.45/21 57.Kd2 Qh2+ 58.Kc3 Qc2+ 59.Qxc2 bxc2]

57.Bc3!= Qh2 58.Bxa5 f5 (→ ...Rg6-g1+) **59.Bd2! Qe5** Against Rd4-d5

60.Bc3 Qe6

[60...Rg2!?]

61.Rd5 Rg2! 62.Bd2 0.01/23

[62.Qxf5+? Qxf5 63.Rxf5 Rc2+ 64.Kb1 Rxc3-+]

[62.Rxf5 Rc2+ 63.Kd1 Rxc3 64.Qxc3 Qxf5 65.Qxb3 Qe5∓]

[62.Kb1± 0.52/19]

62...Qf6 63.Qxb3 Rg1+ 0.83/21

[63...Rf2!= 0.01/21]

64.Kc2± Qc6+! 65.Kd3! Qa6+ 66.Ke3

[66.Qc4 Qxc4+ 67.Kxc4 g5 68.Kd4]

66...Qa7+ 67.Rd4

[67.Ke2 Rg2+ 68.Kd1 Qa6 69.Qd3]

67...Qe7+ 0.89/23

[67...Rg2± 0.33/21]

68.Kd3

[68.Kf2 feels hotter. Rh1 69.Qd5 Rh2+ 70.Kg1]

68...Qe5 1.41/21

[Black should try 68...Rg6 1.05/21]

69.Rd5 0.74/22

[⌓69.Qd5! 1.41/21 Qxd5 70.Rxd5]

69...Qe6 70.Qb5

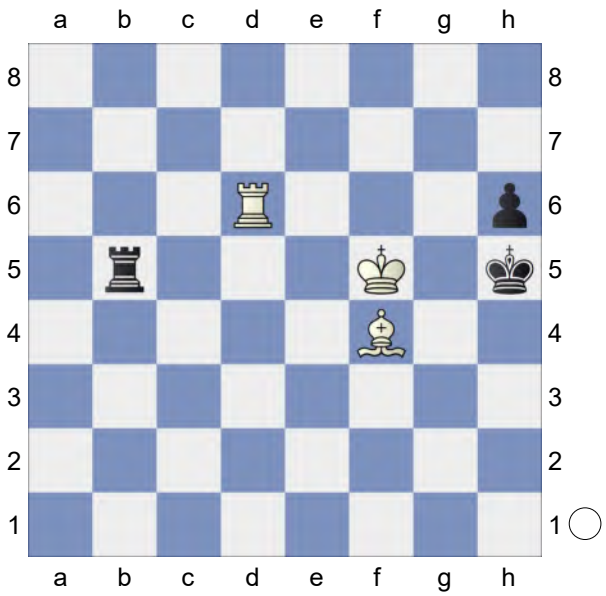
[70.Rb5 simplifies Qxb3+ 71.Rxb3 g5 72.Bc3]

70...Rb1 1.20/21 **71.Qc5** 0.81/21

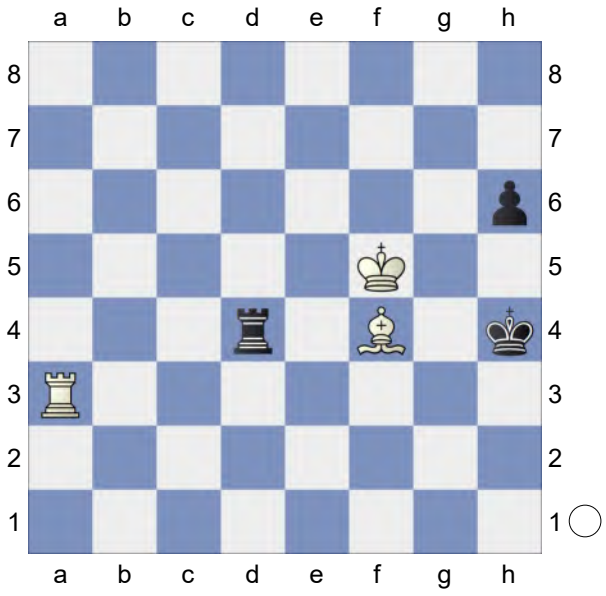
[⌓71.Qd7! 1.20/21 Qa6+ 72.Ke3]

71...Rb3+ 72.Bc3 Qe1 73.Qd4
[73.Rxf5?! Qd1+ 74.Kc4 Qc2=]
73...Qf1+ 74.Kc2 Rb7 75.Qd3!
[75.Rxf5? Qb1+ 76.Kd2 Qxf5-+]
75...Qxd3+ 76.Kxd3± Endgame KRB-KR **76...Rf7 77.Ke3 Kg6** 2.06/20
[77...g5± 0.83/19]
78.Kf4+- Rc7 79.Bd4 Rf7 80.Bf2 Rb7 81.Rd6+
[81.Rxf5? Rb4+ 82.Ke5 Rb5+ 83.Kf4 Rxf5+-+]
81...Kh5 82.Kxf5 Rf7+ 83.Ke4 Re7+ 84.Kf4 g5+ 85.Kf5 Rb7 86.Bd4 Rb3 87.Ke4 Rb4 88.Rc6 Ra4 89.Ke3 Ra3+ 90.Kf2 Ra2+ 91.Kg3 White wants to mate with Bd4-g7. **91...Ra3 92.Re6 Rb3 93.Bc5 Rb8!=** -0.01/24 and Black stays safe. Prevents Bc5-f8 **94.Rf6**
[94.Rc6 Re8]
94...Rg8 95.Re6? -0.01/24
[95.Ra6+- 2.05/27]
95...Rg6? 2.05/29 **96.Re5 Rf6 97.Be3 Kg6 98.Rd5 Re6 99.Bd4 Kh5?** 4.25/26
[99...Ra6 2.06/27 was called for. 100.Rc5 h5]
100.Kf2 2.05/24
[⌓100.f4 4.25/26]
100...Kg6 101.Be5 Kf5 102.Bb2+ Kg6 103.Bd4 Ra6 104.Ke3 Re6+ 105.Kd3 Re7 106.Be5 Rb7 107.Ke4 Kh5 108.Rd6 Rb4+ 109.Kf5 Rb3+- 110.f4! gxf4 111.Bxf4 Rb5+

(Diagram)



112.Be5 0.79/29
[White should play 112.Ke4! 1.51/30]
112...Rb1 113.Rd3 Rb4 114.Ra3 Rc4 115.Bd6 Rd4? #23/24
[115...Ra4± 0.90/25]
116.Bf4 Kh4

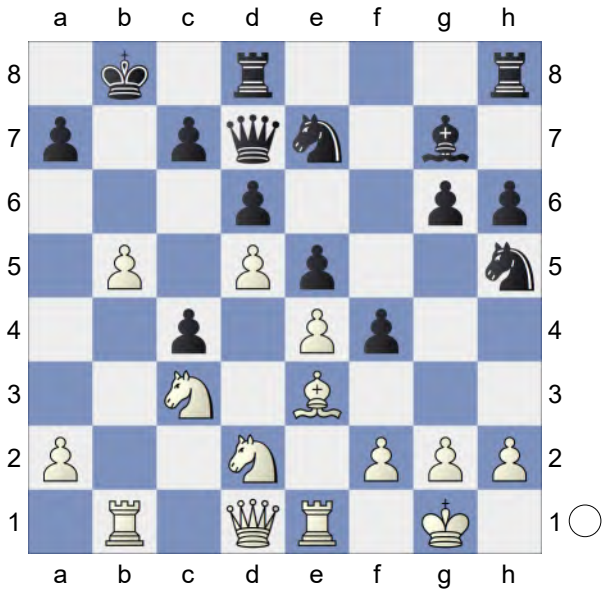


117.Ra6? 0.70/25
[117.Be5! #24/23 mates Rd5 118.Ra4+ Kh5 119.Ra1 *(119.Ra2 Rxe5+ 120.Kxe5 Kg4+-)* 119...Rxe5+ 120.Kxe5 Kg6 121.Ra6+ Kg5 122.Ra8]
117...h5!± 118.Ra3

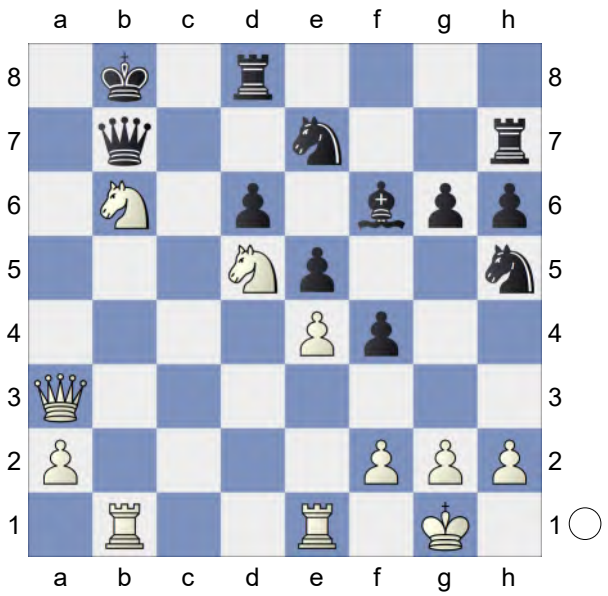
[Not 118.Bg5+ Kg3 119.Rc6 Rb4+-]
118...Rxf4+! 119.Kxf4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.27 (precise)
½-½

135 **C65**
□ **ProteusSFX-AI** **3216**
■ **admete_bot** **2467**
Rapid 29.02.2024
[Kitty Kat]

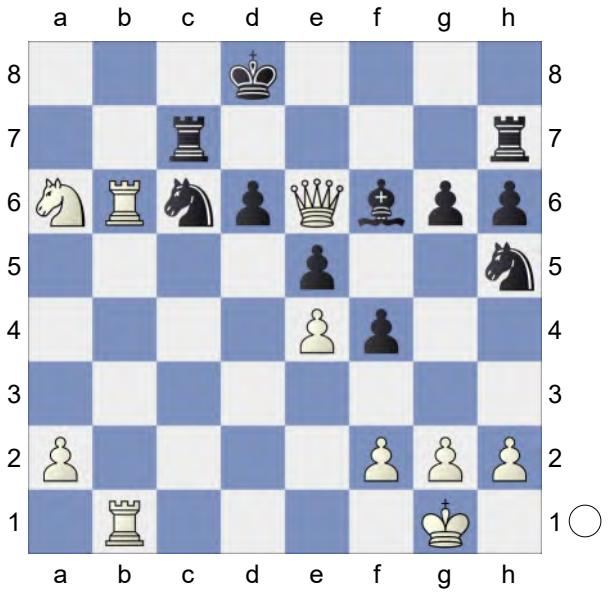
C66: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz Defence **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 g6 6.d4 Bd7 7.d5 Ne7 8.Bxd7+** White is slightly better.
[8.Qe2 with more complications. Bxb5 9.Qxb5+ c6 10.Qxb7 Nxe4 11.dxc6 Qc8 12.Qxc8+ Rxc8 13.c4]
8...Qxd7
[8...Nxd7 9.c4 Bg7 10.Nc3 0-0 11.Be3 Kh8 12.b4 Ng8 13.c5 Bh6 14.Bxh6 Nxh6 15.Qd2 Kg7 16.c6 bxc6 17.dxc6 Nf6 18.a4 Nhg8 19.b5 Ne7 20.Rfd1 a6 21.Qe2 Qb8 22.Nd2 Qa7 23.Nb3 Netusil,M (2626)-B6 (2659) Game 4 2010 CS: Giants of Power Play [Haimovich,T] 1-0 (45)]
9.Re1
[9.Qe2 Bg7 10.c4 0-0 11.Nc3 Nh5 12.g3 h6 13.Nh4 Qh3 14.Rd1 f5 15.Qf1 Qxf1+ 16.Rxf1 fxe4 17.Nxe4 g5 18.Ng2 Nf6 19.f3 Nf5 20.Be3 Nxe4 21.fxe4 Nd4 22.Ne1 c6 23.Bxd4 exd4 Chapter Part (2579)-Kersting,M (2358) Hastings 2016 EXP 46 [Von Gottschall] ½-½ (58)]
9...0-0-0N 0.93/17
[9...a5± 0.52/16]
[9...h5 10.c4 Bh6 11.Bxh6 Rxh6 12.Nc3 Kf8 13.c5 Kg7 14.Qb3 b6 15.c6 Qc8 16.a4 4...d6 Fianchetto Variation: -4...d6 Fianchetto Variation:]
[9...Bg7 10.c4 0-0 11.Nc3 Nh5 12.Be3 h6 13.a4 *(13.Nd2)* 13...f5 14.exf5 Nxf5 15.a5 27. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin (4.-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 d6 5.O-O g6]
10.c4± Bg7 11.Nc3 h6 12.c5 Nh5 13.c6 bxc6 14.Be3
[But not 14.Qa4?! cxd5 15.Qa6+ *(15.Qxa7 Qc6=)* 15...Kb8 16.Nxd5 c5=]
14...c5 2.04/20
[14...cxd5± 1.12/16 15.Nxd5 Nf6]
15.Rb1+- White has strong compensation. **15...f5** 2.45/20
[⌓15...Kb8 1.94/17]
16.b4 c4 17.b5 Kb8 18.Nd2
[Weaker is 18.Qa4 Nc8±]
18...f4? 5.04/19
[18...Nc8 2.33/16]



19.Bxa7+! Kxa7 20.Nxc4 Kb8 21.b6 aiming for bxc7+. **21...c6 22.b7 cxd5 23.Nb6 Qc6 24.Ncxd5 Bf6 25.Qd3** Rec1 is the strong threat. **25...Rh7 26.Qa3 Qxb7**



27.Nb4! Qxb6 28.Na6+ Discovered Attack **28...Kc8 29.Rxb6** Threatening mate with Qa4. **29...Nc6 30.Qh3+ Rdd7 31.Reb1** White wants to mate with Rb8+. **31...Kd8 32.Qe6** White mates. **32...Rc7**



33.Rb8+! Nxb8 34.Rxb8+ Rc8 35.Rxc8# Black did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) / Black=0.62

1-0

136 **C65**

□ **Gurel,Ediz** **2624**

■ **Yakubboev,Nodirbek** **2659**

Tata Steel-B 87th (7) 25.01.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc4 The position is equal. **8...Re8 9.a4 a5** 9...a5 is better than 9...f6. 9...a5 ist besser als 9...f6. **10.Kh1 Bf8**

[10...b6 11.Be3 Bb4 12.Nfd2 b5 13.axb5 cxb5 14.c3 bxc4 15.cxb4 cxd3 16.bxa5 Ba6 17.Qb3 Nf6 18.h3 Nh5 19.Rfc1 Nf4 20.Rc6 Ne2 21.Qd5 Qb8 22.Rxa6 Rxa6 23.Qxd3 Qxb2 24.Rb1 Rd6 25.Qxe2 ½-½ Anand,V (2774)-Kasparov,G (2817) ARM-ROW m Moscow 2004 (6)]

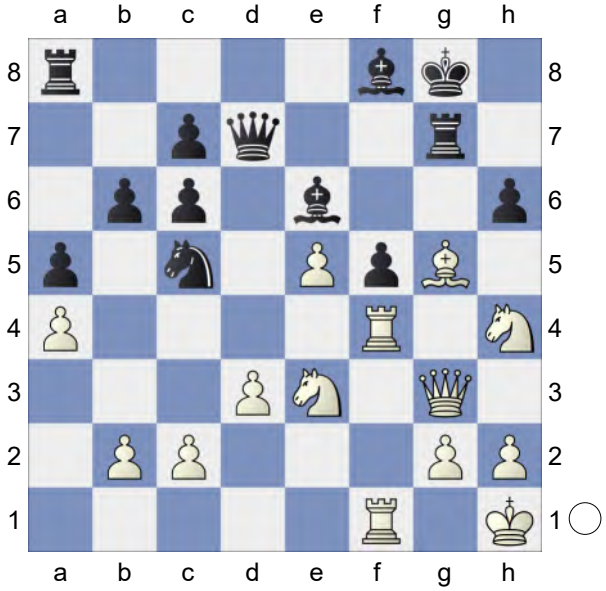
11.Be3 b6 12.Nfd2N

[12.Rg1 Ba6 13.Ncd2 c5 14.g4 Nb8 15.Qf1 Nc6 16.Qh3 Nd4 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.g5 b5 19.axb5 Bxb5 20.Nh4 g6 21.Qg3 Bd6 22.Nhf3 a4 23.h4 Qe7 24.Nh2 Bd7 25.Ng4 Bxg4 26.Qxg4 a3 1-0 Pranav,V (2609)-Blohberger,F (2520) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (2)]

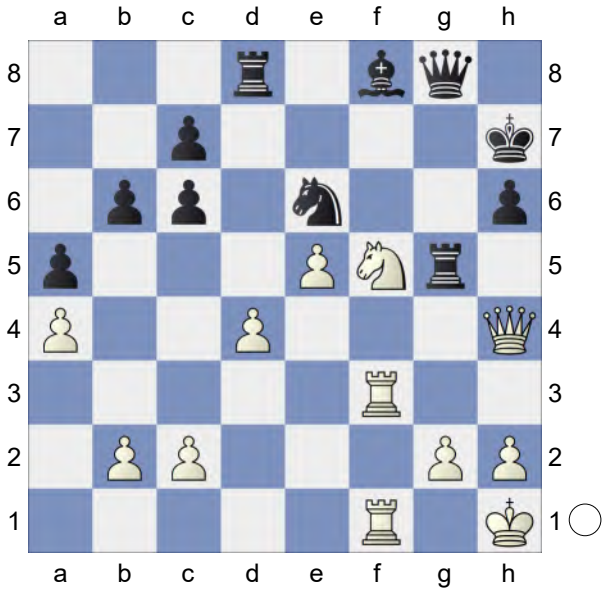
[12.b3 c5 13.Rg1 Qf6 14.g4 Qe6 15.Qf1 Bd6 16.Nh4 Nb8 17.Nf5 Nc6 18.Nfxd6 cxd6 19.Nxb6 Rb8 20.Nd5 Qg6 21.f4 exf4 22.Qxf4 Nb4 23.Nxb4 axb4 24.h4 Bb7 25.h5 Qe6 26.Kh2 d5 ½-½ Grischuk,A (2689)-Potkin,V (2555) Moscow New Year Blitz 2024 (2)]

12...Nc5 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxf4 f6 15.Qf3

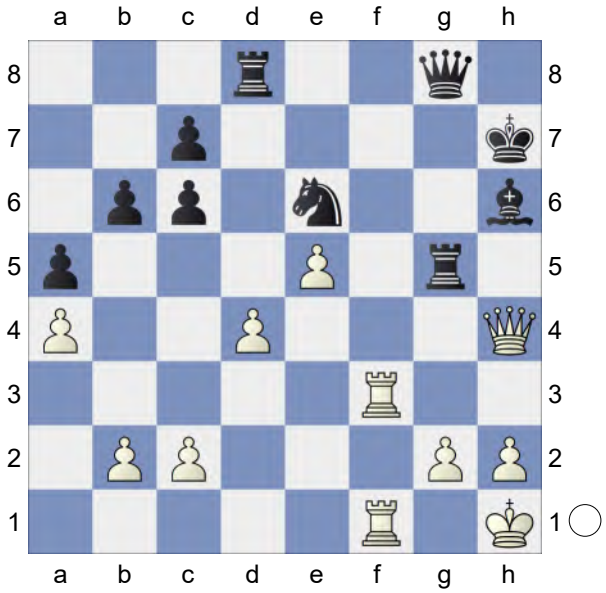
Be6 16.Ne3N
[16.Qg3 Rc8 17.b3 Na6 18.Ne3 Nb4 19.Nf3 Kh8 20.h4 c5 1.00/20 *(20...Bf7± 0.33/19)* 21.Rac1 0.56/20 *(21.h5± 1.00/20)* 21...Nc6 22.h5 ½-½ Givon,A (2415)-Drenchev,P (2485) Albena Masters op 2013 (7)]
16...Qd7 17.Qg3 Re7 0.72/20
[17...Rac8± 0.34/19]
18.e5± f5 19.Nf3! Bd5 20.Nh4 Rf7 21.Bg5! Be6 22.Rf4 0.28/20
[22.Rf3± 0.81/19]
22...g6!= 23.Bf6 Rg7? 2.24/20
24.Raf1+- g5 25.Bxg5 h6



26.Nhxf5! 0.65/21 **Rxg5± 27.Qh4** 0.01/20
[White should play 27.Rg4!± 1.59/20 Qd8 28.h4 Pin Rxg4 29.Nxg4]
27...Bxf5!= 28.Nxf5 Qh7 1.02/20
[28...Re8= 0.01/21]
29.R4f3 Qh4-c4+ is the strong threat. White has strong compensation. White is more active. **29...Qg6 30.Qf2** 0.09/19
[30.d4± 0.74/19 Ne6 31.Ne3]
30...Ne6 31.d4 Kh8 0.63/19
[Black should play 31...Rd8= -0.01/20]
32.Nh4 -0.01/20
[32.c3± 0.63/19]
32...Qg8 0.43/18
[32...Qe4= -0.01/20]
33.Nf5 -0.01/21
[33.c3± 0.43/18]
33...Rd8 34.Qh4 Kh7 4.39/20
[34...Rg4= -0.01/20 and Black is okay. 35.Qh3 *(35.Qf6+ Kh7∓)* 35...Rg6 *(35...Nxd4? 36.Nxh6 Nxf3 37.Nxg8+ Rh4 38.Qxf3+-)*]



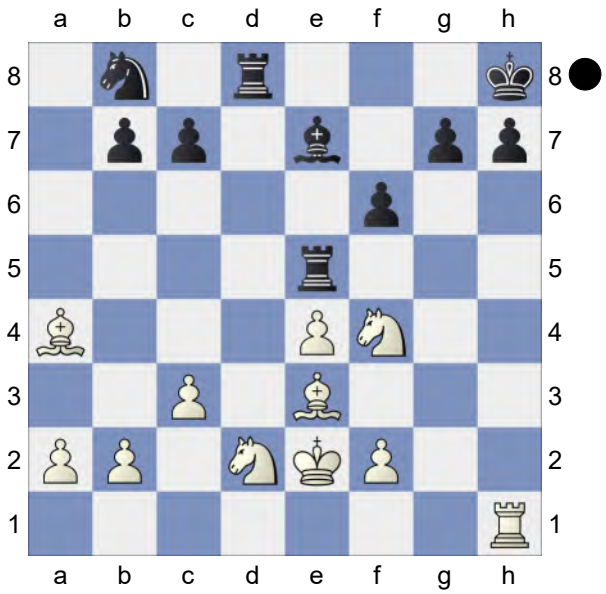
35.Nxh6!+- Bxh6 7.33/22
[⌓35...Qg6 4.43/23]



36.Rf7+! Ng7 37.R1f6 Rg6 38.Rxg6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.88
[38.Rxc7? is the wrong capture. Rf8 39.Qe4 Rfxf6 40.exf6 Pin Qf8-+]
1-0

137 **C65**
□ **TheUnrestrictedGod** **3363**
■ **DaBestFARMER** **2664**
Blitz 04.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.c3 Be7 6.0-0 Bd7**
[6...0-0 7.Re1 Bd7 8.Ba4 Re8 *(8...Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.dxe5 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 dxe5 14.Qg3 Nc6 15.Nc3 Nh5 16.Qh3 Nf6 17.Be3 Qc8 18.Qg3 Ng4 19.Bc1 Nf6 20.Bd1 Kh8 21.Be3 Bb4 22.Bg5 Ng8 23.Bg4* Ioannidis,E (2446)-Mastrovasilis,A (2530) Lamia 2021 CBM 206 Extra [Kapnisis,Spyridon] ½-½ (87) *)* 9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.Nf1 h6 11.Ng3 Ne7 12.Bc2 Ng6 13.d4 c5 14.h3 cxd4 15.cxd4 exd4 16.Qxd4 Qc7 17.Bb3 d5 18.e5 Bc5 19.Qc3 Qb6 20.Be3 d4 21.Bxd4 Alekseev,E (2677)-Dubov,D (2569) Russia 2012 (33)]
7.Ba4N
[7.h3 0-0 8.Re1 Qc8 9.Nbd2 h6 10.Nf1 Nh7 11.Ng3 f5 12.Bc4+ Kh8 13.exf5 Bxf5 14.Nxf5 Qxf5 15.Be3 Bg5 16.Qd2 Be7 17.Bd5 Nf6 18.Bb3 e4 19.dxe4 Nxe4 20.Qc2 Ng5 21.Nxg5 Bxg5 Lukac,A (1212)-Karimli,Z (1416) Mamaia 2017 CBM 180 Extra [ChessBase II] ½-½ (47)]
7...0-0 8.h3 Nb8 White has an edge.
9.Bc2 a5 10.d4 Be6 0.95/19
[10...Nc6± 0.53/19 might be stronger.]
11.dxe5± Nh5 1.85/18
[11...dxe5± 0.92/18 might work better. 12.Nxe5 Qd6]
12.g4+- dxe5 2.33/18
[⌓12...Qc8 1.66/17 13.exd6 cxd6 14.gxh5 Bxh3]
13.Qxd8
[But not 13.Nxe5?! Nf6±]
13...Rxd8 14.gxh5 Bxh3 15.Nxe5 Bxf1 16.Kxf1 Ra6 17.Be3 a4 18.Nd2 f6 19.Nd3 Ra5 20.Ke2 Rxh5 21.Bxa4 Kh8 22.Nf4 Re5 6.25/20
[⌓22...Rh4 4.34/22 23.Nf3 Rg4]
23.Rh1

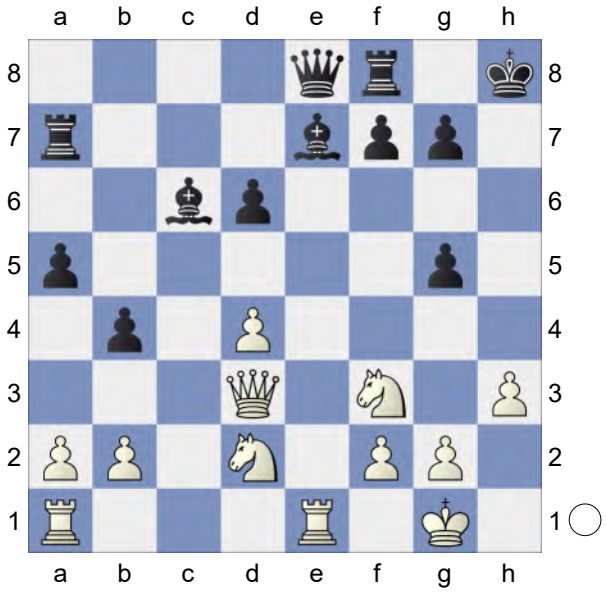


Ng6+ is the strong threat. **23...Rxd2+ 24.Kxd2** Intending Ng6+ and mate. **24...g5 25.Ng6+ Kg7 26.Nxe5 c6 27.Ng4 h5 28.Rxh5 b5 29.Bc2 b4 30.e5 bxc3+ 31.bxc3 Kf8 32.e6** White mates. **32...Kg8 33.Rh7 Nd7 34.exd7 Kf8 35.Nh6 Ba3 36.Rf7#** White took control after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.00

(flawless) /Black=0.72
1-0

138 **C65**
□ **TheUnrestrictedGod** **3283**
■ **DaBestFARMER** **2738**
Blitz 04.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.c3 Bd7**
[6...0-0 7.Re1 *(7.Nbd2 Bg4 8.Re1 Nd7 9.h3 Bh5 10.Nf1 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 Bg5 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.Nxe3 Nb6 14.Rad1 a6 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.d4 f6 17.Qg3 Qe8 18.f4 exf4 19.Qxf4 Qf7 20.b3 a5 21.Nf5 a4* Gukesh,D (2732)-Vescovi,G (2606) Sharjah 2023 CBM 220 [Escalante Ramirez, Brian] 1-0 (33)*)* 7...Re8 8.h3 Bf8 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 Bd7 11.Nbd2 Be7 12.Bg3 Bf8 13.a4 a6 14.Bc4 Be6 15.Bxe6 Rxe6 16.d4 exd4 17.cxd4 d5 18.e5 Nh7 19.Nb1 Ng5 20.Nxg5 hxg5 21.Nc3 Caruana,F (2813)-Rodshtein,M (2687) Douglas 2016 CBM 219 [Kapnisis,Spyridon] 1-0 (56)]
7.Ba4N
[7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Re1 Re8 9.Nf1 Bf8 10.Ng3 h6 11.h3 Ne7 12.Bxd7 Qxd7 13.d4 Ng6 14.Bd2 b5 15.Qc2 c6 16.Rad1 Qb7 17.b3 a5 18.a4 bxa4 19.bxa4 Qa6 20.c4 Rac8 21.c5 exd4 Polgar,J (2699)-Akopian, V (2667) Ningbo 2011 Informant 112 [Martinovic,Sl] ½-½ (31)]
7...a6 8.Re1 0-0 White has an edge. **9.h3 b5 10.Bc2 h6 11.d4 a5 12.Bd3 exd4 13.cxd4 b4 14.e5 Nh7 15.Qc2 Ng5 16.Bxg5 hxg5** White now steadily converts the win. **17.Bh7+** 0.58/5
[17.Be4± 0.98/19 Ra6 18.Nbd2]
17...Kh8± 18.Be4 &Bianco is much more active. **18...Qe8** 1.55/19
[⌓18...Ra6 0.92/19]
19.Nbd2± Hoping for exd6. **19...Ra6 20.Qd3↑** White is on the roll. **20...Ra7** 2.67/18
[20...Nb8± 1.52/20 21.Bb7 Rb6]
21.exd6+- cxd6 22.Bxc6 Bxc6



23.Nxg5! g6
[23...Bxg5 24.Rxe8]
24.d5 Bd7 8.35/21
[⌓24...Kg8 4.85/22 25.dxc6 Qxc6]
25.Qd4+ Kg8 26.Qxa7 Bxg5 27.Rxe8 Rxe8 28.Qxd7 Rd8 29.Qc7 a4 30.Ne4 Bh4 31.Re1 a3 32.Nxd6 White mates. **32...Rd7 33.Qxd7 Bd8 34.Qxf7+ Kh8 35.Re8#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.63
1-0

139 **C67**
□ **Martinez Alcantara,Jose Eduardo**
■ **So,Wesley** **2752**
Julius Baer GenCup D2 W rapid (4.4)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Match play is all about the result. Would have, could have, should have, explanations all fall before the final score. To get a result a player has to first establish the real battleground: In which lines of opening play will the match be decided? Match play competition is also an exchange of information. The players start by making informed, educated guesses about their opponent's primary defense, their secondary defense and so on. A player will play their primary defense until a disaster before switching to a back-up defense. For Game One Magnus chose the Trompovsky Opening and in the process learned precisely nothing about Sergey's primary Queen Pawn defense. In a similar vein, Sergey learned something about Magnus's primary defense to the king pawn opening but by opting out with the safe: 6.d3, instead of 6.♖e1, in a Ruy Lopez, he didn't learn enough. The first pair of games were soft, two draws where the balance was barely disturbed. The match was now reduced to a ten game match. Would Game Three finally produce the clash that chess fans were anxious for? **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Re1N**

[9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 *(10.Re2 b6 11.Re1 Re8 12.Bf4 Rxe1 13.Qxe1 Qe7 14.Nc3 Bb7 15.Qxe7 Bxe7 16.a4 a6 17.g3 g5 18.Bxd6 Bxd6 19.Bg2 Bxg2 20.Kxg2 f5 21.Nd5 Kf7 22.Ne3 Kf6 23.Nc4 Bf8* ½-½ Carlsen,M (2857)-Karjakin,S (2769) World-ch Carlsen-Karjakin +1-1=10 2016 (3) *)*

A) 10...Re8 11.c3 *(11.Rxe8+ Nxe8 12.d5 d6 13.Nd2 Bf5 14.Nc4 Qd7 15.c3 c6 16.Bf4 cxd5 17.Qxd5 Be6 18.Qa5 Bd8 19.Qa3* 51) Benko: 4...a6 5.e3-4...a6 5.e3 g6 #7 Lifetime Repertoires: Swiercz's 1. d4 - 2023 *)* 11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Nf5 *(12...Ne8 13.d5 b6 14.Bf4 Bb7 15.Qd2 h6 16.Na3 Bg5 17.Rd1 Bxf4 18.Qxf4 Qg5 19.Qxg5 hxg5 20.h3 Nd6 21.c4 f6 22.b3 Re8 23.Nc2 a5 24.Bd3 Kf7 25.Nd4* ½-½ Herriot,B-Marchant,A corr 139/ (128) 2018*)* 13.Bd3 d5 14.Bf4 c6 15.Nd2 Nh4 16.Qe2 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Nf3 Qe7 19.Re1 Qxe2 20.Rxe2 ½-½ (20) Nakamura,H (2751)-Kramnik,V (2784) Wijk aan Zee 2011 CI1-130 [RR];

B) 10...Nf5 11.d5 *(11.c3 d5 12.Nd2 Be6 13.Nf3 Rc8 14.Bf4 c5 15.Be5 Bxe5 16.Rxe5 c4 17.Qd2 h6 18.a4 a5 19.g3 Qb6 20.Bg2 Qb3 21.Ra3 Qb6 22.Re1 Qd6 23.Ne5 Ne7 24.Qe3 Rfe8* 0-1 Duque Salazar,C (1611)-Calvache Ramirez,J (1593) Popayan Yeika op 1st 2024 (6)*)* 11...d6 12.Nd2 Bg5 *(12...c6 13.Ne4 Be5 14.c3 Qb6 15.a4 a5 16.Kh1 cxd5 17.Qxd5 Be6 18.Qb5 Qxb5 19.Bxb5 g6 20.Bg5 h6 21.Bf6 Bxf6 22.Nxf6+ Kg7 23.Nd7 Rfd8 24.Nb6 Rab8 25.b4 axb4 26.cxb4 d5 27.Bd3* Patterson,C (2436)-Lobron (2457)

Saint Louis USA 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Stockfish 15Analyse (5min.Zug)(Bauer,E)] ½-½ (35)) 13.Ne4 Bxc1 14.Rxc1 Bd7 15.c4 Re8 16.Qd2 Re5 17.Bd3 Qh4 18.f4 Re7 19.c5 Rae8 20.b4 0-1 (20) Dzenis,J (2466)-Brinkmann, W (2393) ICCF 2008 Kommentierte Partien2024 [Brinkmann,Wilhelm Prof(GER)SM]]

[9.Nc3 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Nd5 Rxe1 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.Qxe1 b6 14.d3 Bb7 15.f3 Re8 16.Qf2 Nf5 17.c3 Nh4 18.Bd2 h6 19.d4 g5 20.Re1 Rxe1 21.Qxe1 Qf5 22.Be2 b5 23.Qf1 a6 Chapter C50-Games Game 7 (71)]

9...Nf5 10.d4 d5 11.c3 The position is equal. **11...Bd6**

[11...c5 is interesting. 12.dxc5 Bxc5 13.Nd2 Bxf2+ 14.Kxf2 Qb6+]

12.Nd2 c6 13.Nf3 Re8!?N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.

[Vorgänger: 13...Nh4 14.Nxh4 Qxh4 15.g3 Qf6 16.Bg2 Bf5 17.Qf3 Rae8 *(17...Rfe8!? 18.Bd2 Qg6=)* 18.Bd2 -0.57/21 *(18.Bf4= -0.25/20 Be4 19.Qe2 Bxf4 20.f3)* 18...Qg6!∓ Prevents g3-g4. ...Bf5-g4 is the strong threat. 19.Rxe8! Rxe8 ½-½ Ibarra Jerez,J (2563)-Andreikin, D (2733) Titled Tuesday intern op1 5th July blitz 2016 (9)]

14.Rxe8+ Qxe8 15.Bd3 f6 16.Bd2 Qf7 17.Qc2 g6 18.Re1 Ng7 19.Qc1 Bg4 20.Qd1 Re8 21.h3 Rxe1+ 22.Bxe1 Bf5 23.Bxf5 Nxf5 24.Qe2 h5 25.Bd2 h4 26.Kf1 g5 27.Ne1 Kg7 28.Nd3 Qg6 29.Ke1 Ne7 30.Kd1 Qe4 31.f4 gxf4

[31...Bxf4 looks sharper. 32.Nxf4 gxf4 33.Bxf4 Qb1+]

32.Bxf4 -0.77/23 **Bxf4∓** Black continues to play with concentration. **33.Qxe4** Remove Defender **33...dxe4 34.Nxf4 Nd5 35.Nxd5** -1.79/23 Loses the game.

[35.Ne6+∓ -0.89/22 Kg6 36.Ke2]

35...cxd5 Endgame KP-KP **36.Ke2?** -7.50/21

[36.a4 -1.93/23 only move. f5 37.Ke1]

36...f5? -1.77/21

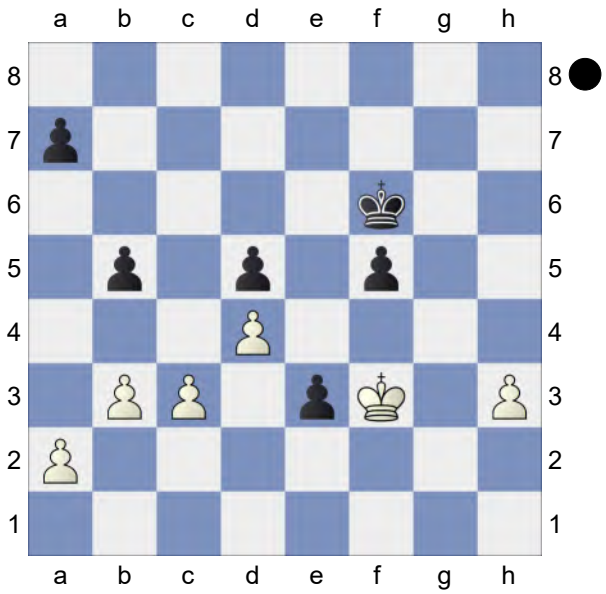
[36...b5 -7.50/21 37.Ke3 Kg6]

37.Ke3? -6.69/21

[37.b3 -1.77/21]

[37.a4 -1.98/21]

37...b5!-+ 38.b3 Kg6 Threatens to win with ...Kg5. **39.Kf4 Kf6 40.g4 hxg3 41.Kxg3 e3** White must now prevent ... f4+! **42.Kf3**



f4! 43.h4

[43.a4 bxa4]

43...Kg6

[Weaker is 43...Kf5 44.h5∓]

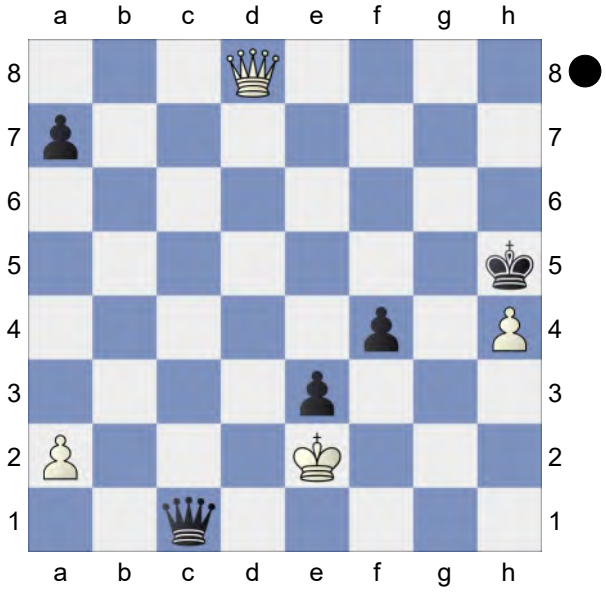
44.Ke2 Kh5 45.c4 bxc4 46.bxc4 dxc4 47.d5 c3 (→ ...c3-c2!)

[47...Kxh4 48.d6 Kg3 49.d7 f3+ 50.Kxe3±]

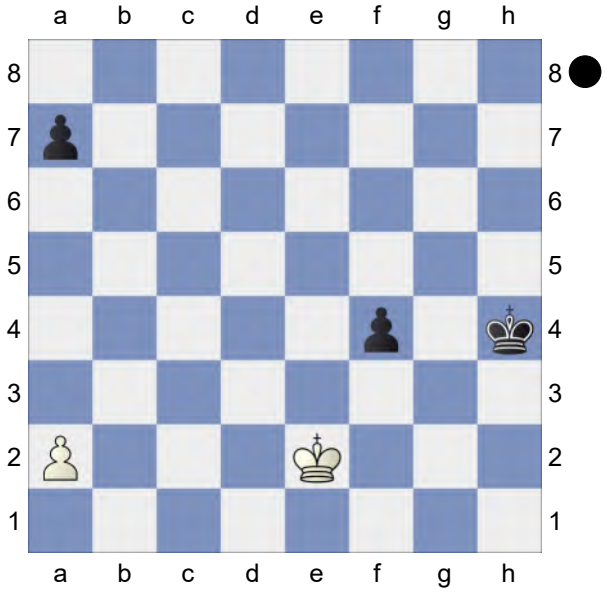
48.d6 c2

[48...Kxh4? 49.d7+-]

49.d7 c1Q (→ ...Qd2+)
[49...c1R 50.d8Q *(50.d8R? too greedy. Rc2+ 51.Kf3 Rf2+ 52.Ke4 e2-+)* 50...Rc2+ 51.Kf1 *(51.Kf3 Rf2+ 52.Ke4 Kg4+-)* 51...Rf2+ 52.Kg1+-]
50.d8Q Against Qd2+

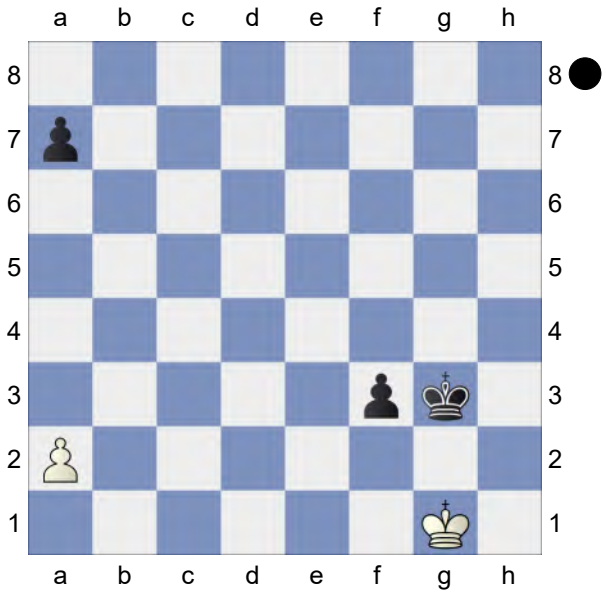


50...Qd2+! Deflection **51.Qxd2 exd2 52.Kxd2 Kxh4** KPP-KP KPP-KP. Black is a pawn up. **53.Ke2**

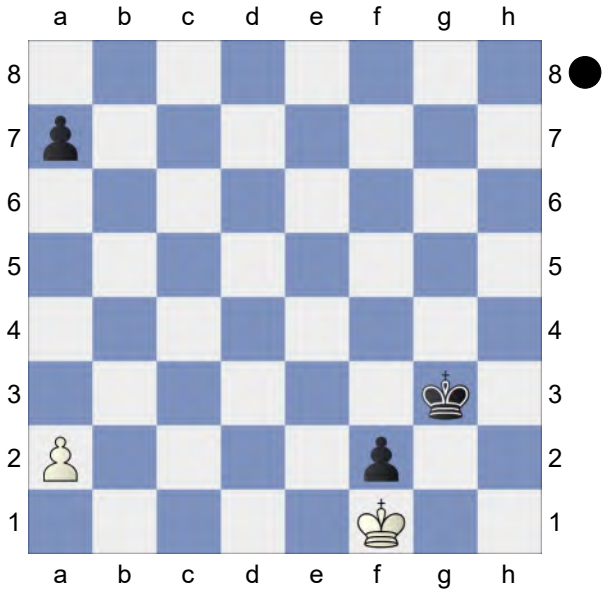


Kg3! 54.Kf1 f3 55.Kg1

(Diagram)



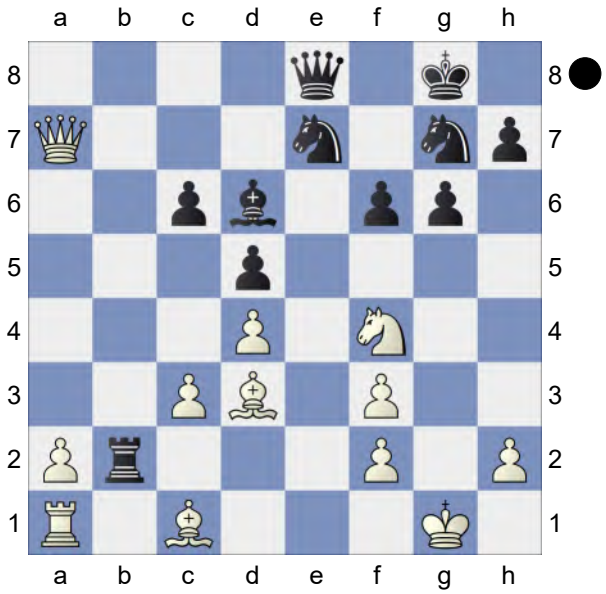
f2+! 56.Kf1



Kf3! Black mates. **57.a3 Ke3 58.a4 a5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.68/Black=0.21 (precise) Weighted Error Value: White=0.76/Black=0.17 (very precise)
0-1

140 **C67**
□ **Lu,Shanglei** **2609**
■ **Yu,Yangyi** **2724**
Chengdu Chess King 2nd rapid (2.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 0-0 9.d4 d5** White is slightly better. **10.c3 Bd6 11.Bd3 Re8**
[11...Nce7 12.Nbd2 c6 13.Nf1 Ng6 14.Qc2 Nfh4 15.Nxh4 Qxh4 16.g3 Qd8 17.Ne3 Re8 18.Bd2 Nf8 19.Nf5 Bc7 20.Rxe8 Qxe8 21.Re1 Be6 22.Qc1 f6 23.Qd1 Qd7 24.Qf3 Re8 25.h4 Bf7 26.Rf1 ½-½ Molina,R (2826)-Buchicchio,G (2800) B) 8... ♖b8 (7)]
12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Nbd2 13.Qc2 is vanishing. 13.Dc2 scheint zu verschwinden. **13...Be6!?N** 13...Nce7 is a critical line. A promising side line. 13...Sce7 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
[13...Nce7 14.Nf1 c6 15.Qc2 f6 16.Bd2 g6 17.Re1 Ng7 18.c4 Bg4 19.c5 Bc7 20.Nh4 Qd7 21.Bh6 Re8 22.Bd2 Kf7 23.Ne3 Be6 24.g3 Bh3 25.Bc3 g5 26.Nf3 Nef5 27.Nxf5 Rxe1+ 28.Nxe1 0-1 Bacrot,E (2653)-So,W (2766) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (10)]
[13...Bd7 14.Nf1 f6 15.Qc2 g6 16.Qb3 Nce7 17.c4 dxc4 18.Bxc4+ Kg7 19.g4 Nh6 20.g5 fxg5 21.Nxg5 Nhf5 22.d5 Nd4 23.Qd3 Nef5 24.Bd2 b5 25.Re1 Qf8 26.Bb3 b4 27.Ng3 Nxb3 28.Qxb3 6 Chapter-Games Chapter 12 Game]
14.Qc2 g6 15.Ng5N
[15.Nf1 f6 16.Bd2 Qd7 17.Ne3 -0.06/21 *(17.Re1± 0.31/16)* 17...Nxe3= 18.fxe3 Ne7 19.e4 dxe4 20.Bxe4 c6 21.c4 ½-½ Saric,I (2652)-Adams,M (2744) EU-chT (Men) 20th 2015 (3.1)]
15...Bd7 16.Ndf3 -0.01/19
[16.Nf1!± 0.37/18 is superior.]
16...f6 17.Nh3 Ng7 18.Nf4 Ne7 19.Bd2 Bg4 20.Qb3 -0.30/20
[⌓20.Nh4 0.25/19]
20...Bxf3= 21.gxf3 c6 22.Qxb7 Rb8 23.Qxa7 Rxb2 24.Bc1 -5.72/23
[White should try 24.Be3∓ -0.60/20]



24...Nc8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/Black=0.03 (flawless)
0-1

141 **C67**
□ **Tari,Aryan** **2642**
■ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2680**
Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid (4)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4 Be7!**

7.Nc3 Against e4 **7...a6** Nowadays more popular than 7...0-0. Heutzutage beliebter als 7...0-0. **8.Bf1 Nf5N**

[8...e4 9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re1 d4 *(11...Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.Be2 0-0 14.d4 Re8 15.Ne5 Bxe2 16.Rxe2 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qd7 18.Qd3 Rad8 19.b3 Qe6 20.Bd2 Qg6 21.f4 f5 22.b4 Qe6 23.c3 c5 24.bxc5 Bxc5+ 25.Be3 Bxe3+ 26.Qxe3* Aronian,L (2789)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2751) Chess.com INT 2017 CBM 183 [Kuzmin,Alexey] 1-0 (48)*)* 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Rxe6 fxe6 14.Be4 d3 15.Bxd3 0-0 16.Be4 Nd4 17.d3 Nxf3+ 18.Bxf3 Nihal,S (2651)-Robson,R (2682) Abu Dhabi 2022 Chess Informant 153 [Perunovic,Milos]]

[8...0-0 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.Rxe5 Ne8 11.Nd5 Bd6 12.Re1 c6 13.Ne3 Be7 14.Nc4 d5 15.Nb6 Qxb6 16.Rxe7 Be6 17.b3 Nd6 18.Ba3 c5 19.d4 Qd8 20.dxc5 Qxe7 21.cxd6 Qf6 22.Bc5 Rfc8 23.b4 Bonacker (2628)-8.♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2624) Wheeling 2023 TD 92\01 [John Watson] 0-1 (45)]

9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.Rxe5 d6 11.Re1 d5 12.d4 0-0 13.Bf4 c6 14.Bd3N -0.35/24

[Vorgänger: 14.Ne2 a5 15.Nc1 Bd6 16.Qd2 Qc7 17.Bxd6 Nxd6 18.Qf4 Bf5 19.Nd3 Rae8 20.Re5 ½-½ Pichot,A (2600)-Vidit,S (2718) FIDE World Cup 2019 (1.1)]

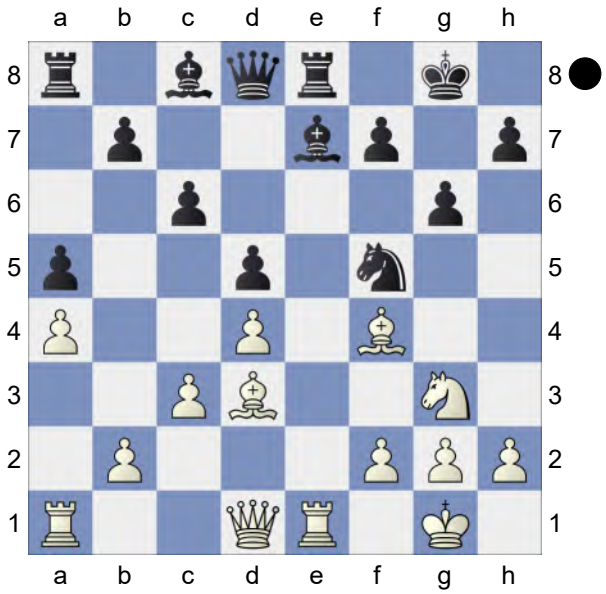
[14.Ne2= 0.17/30]

14...a5 0.17/24

[Better is 14...Nxd4∓ -0.35/24 15.Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.Qxd4 Re8]

15.Ne2!= g6 16.c3 Re8 17.Ng3

(Diagram)



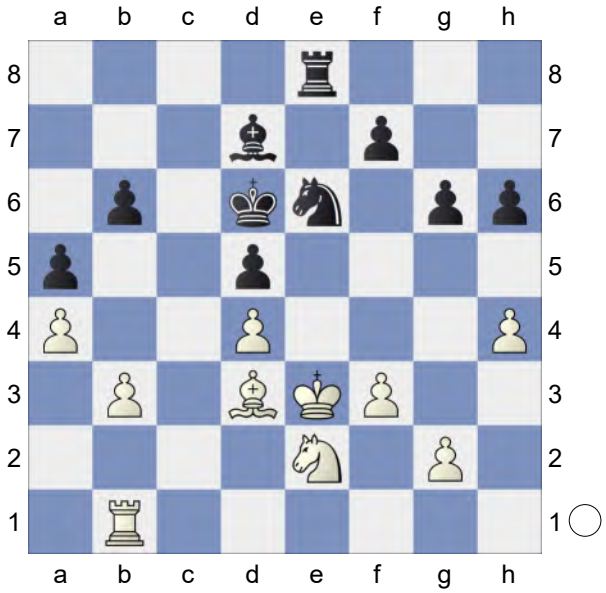
Hoping for Nxf5. **17...Ng7 18.Qd2 Bd7 19.Re2** -0.29/25

[19.Bh6 0.06/27 is more appropriate.]

19...Ne6 20.Bh6 Bg5 0.00/36

[20...Bd6∓ -0.31/24 might be stronger.]

21.Bxg5 The position is equal. **21...Qxg5 22.Qxg5 Nxg5 23.Rxe8+ Rxe8 24.f3 Ne6 25.Ne2** Prevents Nf4. **25...b6 26.Kf2 Kf8 27.h4 h6 28.b3 Rb8 29.c4 Ke7 30.cxd5 cxd5 31.Ke3 Kd6 32.Kd2 Rh8 33.Rb1 Ra8 34.Ke3 Re8**



Strongly threatening ...Nc5+. **35.Kd2 Ra8 36.Re1 Rb8 37.Ra1 Rc8 38.g3 Rh8 39.Rb1 Ra8 40.Ke3 Re8** Threatens to win with ...Nc5+. **41.Kd2 Ra8 42.Rh1 Rb8 43.Kc3 Rc8+ 44.Kd2 Rb8 45.Kc3 Re8 46.Kd2 Rc8 47.Rb1 Ra8** An uneventful encounter. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

142 **C67**
□ **Shankland,Samuel L** **2674**
■ **So,Wesley** **2757**
American Cup Champ (1.2) 13.03.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 h6 11.b3 Kc8 12.Bb2 b6 13.Rad1 a5!** is more profitable than 13... Ne7 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 13...Se7.

[13...Ne7 14.Ne2 Ng6 15.Ne1 h5 16.Nd3 c5 17.c4 a5 18.a4 h4 19.Nc3 Be6 20.Nd5 Kb7 21.Ne3 Rh5 22.Bc3 Re8 23.Rd2 Kc8 24.f4 Ne7 25.Nf2 Nf5 ½-½ Kasparov,G (2849)-Kramnik,V (2770) World-ch Kramnik-Kasparov +2-0=13 2000 (1)]

14.Rfe1N 0.00/27

[14.Rd3± 0.39/27 Bb4 *(14...Ne7 15.Rfd1 Bf5 16.R3d2 c5 17.Nb5 Nc6 18.Nh4 Be6 19.f4 g6 20.g4 Be7 21.Ng2 Kb7 22.Nd6+ cxd6 23.exd6 Rhd8 24.dxe7 Rxd2 25.Rxd2 Nxe7 26.a4 Nc6 27.Ne3 Re8 28.Kf2 f5 29.Bg7* 1-0 Sudgen,J (2731)-15. ♘c4 0-0 16. ♕e5 ♖ab8 (2700) Silver Queen Irish ch-1 final 1910 (2) *)* 15.Rfd1 Be6 16.g4 Ne7 17.Nd4 Bxc3 18.Bxc3 Kb7 19.Be1 Nd5 20.Rf3 g5 21.Nxe6 fxe6 22.c4 Nf4 23.Kh2 h5 24.gxh5 Rxh5 25.Rd7 Rah8 26.Bd2 Rxh3+ 27.Rxh3 Rxh3+ 28.Kg1 Rd3 29.Rxd3 0-1 Martin,P (2547)-6.♘b3 ♗b4 7. ♗g5_64007 (2627) 3/528 Hastings 1966 (2.4)]

[14.a4 c5 *(14...Bb4 15.Ne2 Re8 16.Nf4 g5 17.Nh5 Be6 18.g4 Ne7 19.Ng7 Rg8 20.Nxe6 fxe6 21.Nd4 Rg6 22.f4 gxf4 23.Rxf4 Nd5 24.Rf7 Kb7 25.c4 Ne7 26.Ne2 Rgg8 27.Nf4 Rad8 28.Rd3 b5* Perez Berenguer,V (2592)-West,J (2661) Malmoe/Kobenhavn 93/248 2005 *)* 15.Nd5 c4 16.Nf4 Bc6 17.e6 cxb3 18.exf7 bxc2 19.Rd2 Bb4 20.Rxc2 Bxa4 21.Rcc1 Rf8 22.Ne5 Bb3 23.Nfg6 Rxf7 24.Nxf7 Bxf7 25.Ne5 Bb3 26.Bc3 Ba3 27.Ra1 Bd6 28.Rfb1 Bd5 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2736)-So,W (2760) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (2. 18)]

14...Bb4= 15.a3N

[Vorgänger: 15.Re4 Bxc3 16.Bxc3 c5 0.51/25 *(16...Be6!= -0.04/26)* 17.g4± Rd1xd7 is the strong threat. Ne7 White must now prevent ...Bd7-c6. 18.e6! Bxe6 0.93/23 *(18...Bc6± 0.35/26 19.Re3 f6)* 19.Bxg7± Rh7 20.Bb2 Nc6 1.59/20 *(⌓20...a4 0.88/25)* 21.a4!± Kb7 22.Kg2 0.95/21 *(White should play 22.Kh2* 1.59/20 *)* 22...Rg8± 23.Kg3 0.00/24 *(23.Rd2± 1.13/19)* 23...Bc8 1.30/26 *(23...Bf5!= 0.00/24* keeps the balance. *24.Re2 Bc8)* 24.Bf6!± Bf5 25.Re2 Nf3-h4 would now be deadly. Rg6 1.91/25 *(25...Be6±* 1.37/25 *)* 26.Bb2+- Rg8 27.Bf6 1.17/27

(27.Nh4!+- 1.92/23 Bc8 28.Bf6)
27...Rg6 1.79/26 *(27...Be6± 1.17/27)*
28.Bb2+- Rg8 ½-½ Chojnacki,K (2351)-Koziak,V (2495) Poznan op 15th 2006 (5)]

15...Bxc3 16.Bxc3 The position is equal. **16...Be6 17.g4 Ne7 18.Kh2 c5** And now ...a5-a4 would win. **19.a4! Kb7 20.Bb2 b5 21.axb5 a4 22.Ra1 axb3 23.cxb3 Kb6** -0.08/24

[23...Nd5∓ -0.50/25 is superior.]

24.Ba3!= Rhd8 25.Rec1! Rd5 26.Kg3 -0.70/19

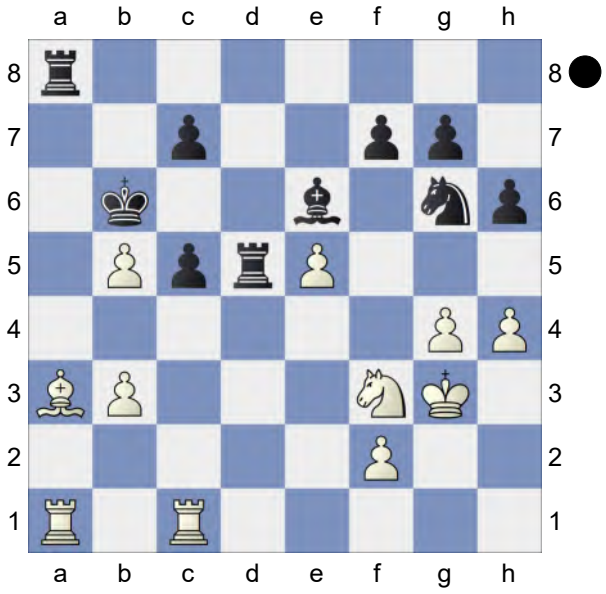
[26.Rxc5? Rxa3 27.Rxd5 Rxa1-+]
[Better is 26.Ng1= -0.01/24]

26...Ng6 -0.05/23 Black is more active.

[26...Kxb5 27.Rxc5+ Kb6 28.Rxd5 Bxd5 29.e6 fxe6 30.Bb2 Rxa1 31.Bxa1±]
[26...g5∓ -0.70/19]

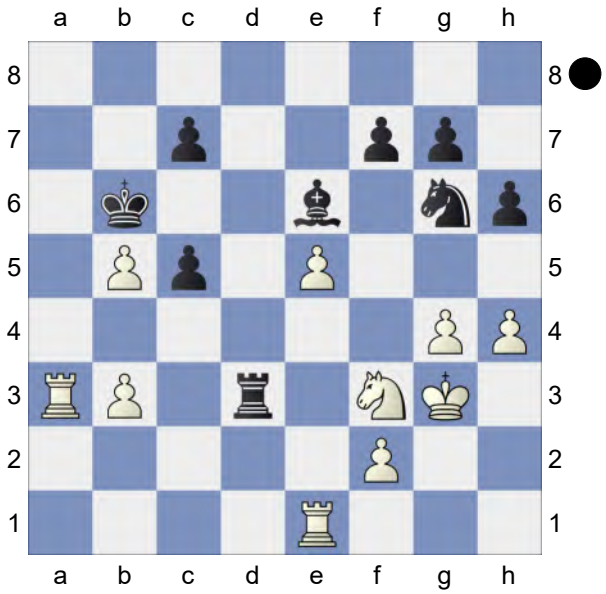
27.h4

[27.Rxc5? Rxa3 28.Rxd5 Rxa1-+]
[27.Ne1!?]



27...Rxa3! 28.Rxa3 Rd3! Discovered Attack **29.Re1**

(Diagram)



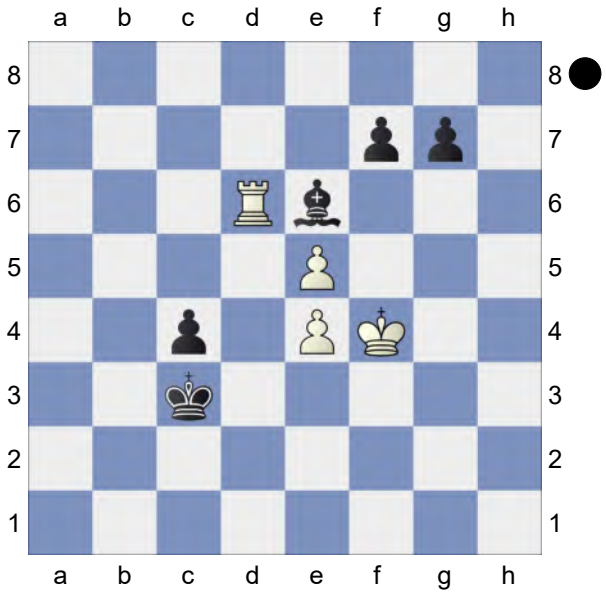
Nxh4! 0.00/41 **30.Re3!**

[30.Kxh4? Rxf3 31.Re3 Rxf2∓]

30...Rxe3 Remove Defender **31.fxe3 Nxf3 32.Kxf3 Kxb5** Endgame. KR-KB **33.e4 Kb4 34.Ra7 c6 35.Rb7+ Kc3 36.Rb6 Bxb3 37.Rxc6 Kd4 38.Kf4 Be6 39.Rd6+ Kc3 40.g5! hxg5+ 41.Kxg5?** -5.29/20 Loses the game.

[41.Ke3!= -0.08/32 and White stays safe.]

41...c4-+ 42.Kf4

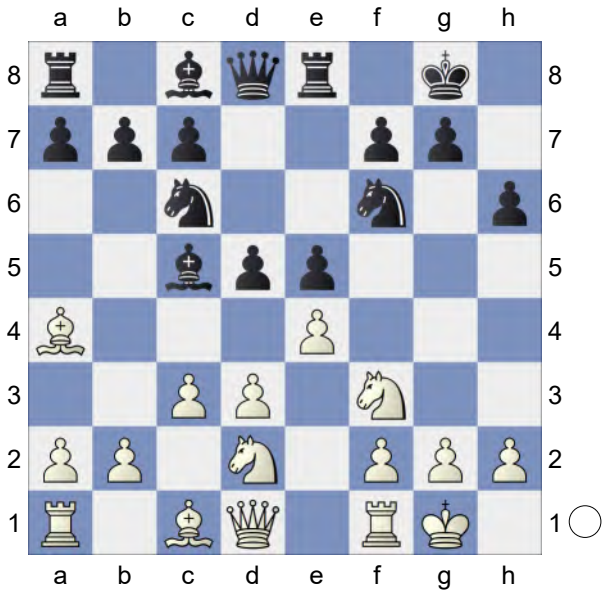


Kb2! Threatens to win with ...c4-c3. **43.Ke3?** -#33/30

[43.Rb6+-+ -3.67/17 Kc1 44.Ke3]
43...c3 44.Rb6+ Bb3 45.Rc6 g5 -77.18/27
[⌓45...c2 -#28/33 46.Kd2 g5 47.Rc3 g4 48.Rc8 g3 49.Ke2 c1Q *(49...c1R? 50.Rg8-+)* 50.Rxc1 Kxc1 51.Kf3 Kd2 52.Kxg3 Ke3 53.e6 Bxe6 *(53...Kxe4 54.exf7 Bxf7=)* 54.e5 Ke4 55.Kg2 Kxe5 56.Kf3 f5 57.Ke3 f4+ 58.Kf3 Bc4 59.Kf2 Ke4 60.Kg2 Ke3 61.Kh3 f3 62.Kg4 f2 63.Kh4 f1Q *(63...f1R* is a self mate. *64.Kg4 Be2+ 65.Kg5 Bd3 66.Kg4 Rg1+ 67.Kh4 Kf4 68.Kh3 Be4 69.Kh4 Rh1#)* 64.Kg5 Qf7 65.Kh6 Be2 66.Kg5 Qg7+ 67.Kh4 Qg4#]
46.e6 fxe6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.59/Black=0.29 (precise)
[Inferior is 46...Bxe6 47.Kd3=]
0-1

143 **C65**
□ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2727**
■ **So,Wesley** **2752**
CCT Final KO rapid (1.32) 14.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** 3 **e5** 2 **2.Nf3** 1 **Nc6** 5 **3.Bb5** 4
[3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nxc6 bxc6 6.e5 Qe7 7.Qe2 Nd5 8.g3 g6 9.c4 Ba6 10.b3 Bg7 11.Bb2 0-0 12.Bh3 d6 13.0-0 Bxe5 14.Bg2 Bxb2 15.Qxb2 Qf6 16.Qxf6 Nxf6 17.Bxc6 Rab8 18.Nc3 Bb7 19.Bxb7 Rxb7]
3...Nf6 2 **4.d3** 3 **Bc5** 3 **5.Ba4** 2
[5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 dxe4 8.dxe4 Qe7 9.b4 Bd6 10.a3 a5 11.Rb1 Rd8 12.Re1 Be6 13.Qc2 axb4 14.axb4 h6 15.Nf1 Nh5 16.g3 Ra2 17.Rb2 Rxb2 18.Bxb2 Nf6 19.Ne3 Nb8 Lyonbeast (2886)-Lazavik,D (2566) Online 2024 (72)]
5...0-0 8 **6.0-0** 2 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5. **6...Re8N** 56
[6...d6 7.c3 Ne7 *(7...Bb6 8.Nbd2 Ne7 9.Nc4 Ng6 10.Bc2 Re8 11.Re1 c6 12.Nxb6 axb6 13.d4 Qc7 14.h3 h6 15.Be3 Bd7 16.a4 c5 17.Nd2 b5 18.dxc5 dxc5 19.axb5 Bxb5 20.Qf3 Rxa1 21.Rxa1 Nf4 22.Re1* Chapter Become An Optimize-Firouzja,A*)* 8.Nbd2 *(8.Bg5 Ng6 9.Nh4 h6 10.Nxg6 fxg6 11.Be3 Ng4 12.Bxc5 dxc5* Narayanan,S (2572)-Afanasiev,N (2508) Moscow 2019 140 Games Section [Tadic,Branko]*)* 8...Ng6 9.d4 Bb6 10.Bc2 Re8 11.Re1 c6 12.h3 h6 13.a4 Be6 14.Nf1 Qd7 15.Ng3 Rad8 16.Be3 Qc7 17.Qc1 Karjakin,S (2753)-Jakovenko,D (2735) Saint Petersburg (blitz) 140/(130) 2018 140 Games Section [Tadic,Branko]]
7.c3 5 **d5** 11 **8.Nbd2** 47 **h6** 36

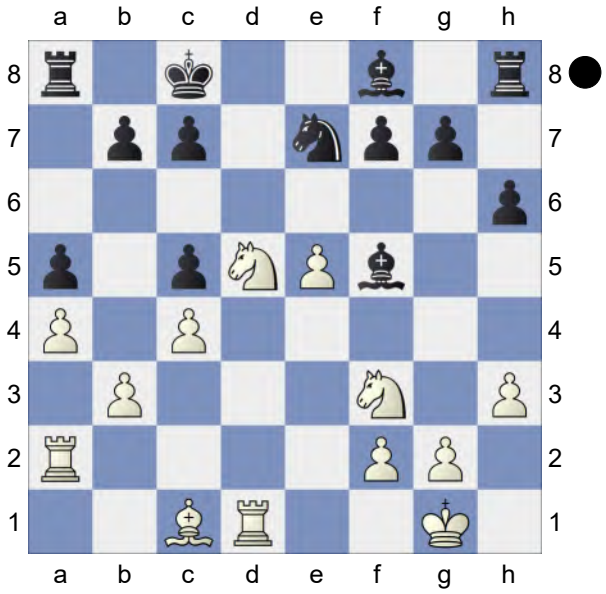


9.Re1 2:11 'N'
[Predecessor: 9.Bxc6 bxc6 10.Nxe5

Rxe5 11.d4 Re8 12.dxc5 Nxe4 13.Nxe4 Rxe4 14.Be3 Bf5 15.Qf3]
9...dxe4 1:11 **10.dxe4** 15 **a5** 12 The position is equal. **11.Qe2** 38
[11.Qc2 seems wilder. Ng4 12.Re2 Be6 13.h3]
11...Bd7 1:27 **12.Nf1** 33 **Rb8** 54 **13.Ng3** 15
[13.Qc4 is more complex. Bd6 14.Rd1 Qc8 15.Be3]
13...Bd6 2:13 **14.Bb5** 1:49 **Ne7** 11 **15.Nh4** 7 **Bxb5** 1:04
[15...c6!? 16.Ba4 Bc5=]
16.Qxb5 1 **Qd7** 1 **17.Qxd7** 1:39 **Nxd7** 1 **18.Nhf5** 2 **Nxf5** 2 **19.Nxf5** 1 **Bc5** 1:12 **20.Kf1** 44 **h5** 24 **21.Rd1** 9 **Red8** 14 **22.Ke2** 1:11 **g6** 9 **23.Ne3** 4 **Nb6** 30 Prevents Nc4. **24.Rxd8+** 19 **Rxd8** 1 **25.b3** 1 **a4** 35 **26.Nc2** 6 **f6** 10 **27.b4** -0.26/22 28
[⌓27.Be3 0.08/19 Bxe3 28.Nxe3]
27...Bf8 15 **28.Na3** 1 **Kf7** 23 **29.Be3** 3 **Nc8** 0 **30.f3** 35 **Ke6** 2 **31.Nc4** 52 **Nd6** 40 **32.Rd1** 34 **Be7** 1 **33.Nxd6** 20 **Bxd6=** 13 Endgame KRB-KRB Endgame KRB-KRB **34.b5** 11 **f5** 10 **35.c4** 3 **Ra8** 16 **36.c5** 36 **Be7** 1 **37.Kd3** 1 **a3** 26 **38.Rc1** 11 **fxe4+** 54 **39.fxe4** 4 **Ra5** 1 **40.Rb1** 26 **Ra4** 0 **41.h3** 12 **Kd7** 1 **42.Rb3** 4 **Ke6** 10 **43.Rb1** 20 The position is equal. **43...Kd7** 7 **44.Rb3** 7 **Ke6** 2 **45.Rb1** 1 A balanced but interesting game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless) Not much happened in this game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

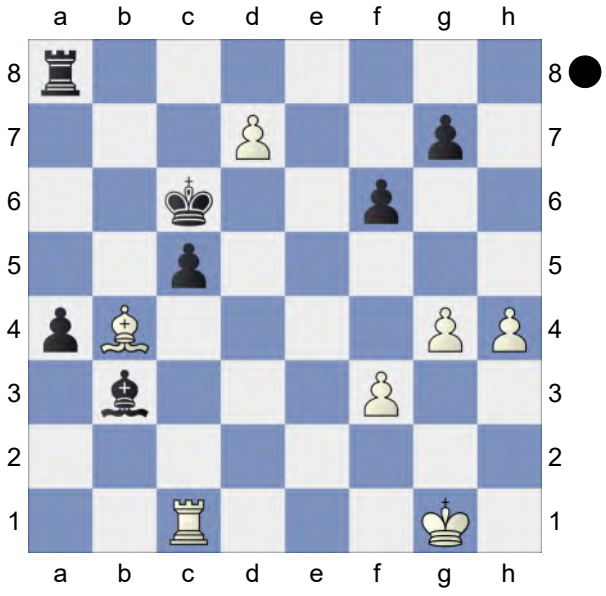
144 **C67**
□ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2727**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2763**
CCT Final playoff rapid (1.1) 09.12.2023
[TA]

1.e4 2 **e5** 2 **2.Nf3** 3 **Nc6** 2 **3.Bb5** 2 **Nf6** 2 **4.0-0** 6 **Nxe4** 3 **5.d4** 2 **Nd6** 2 **6.Bxc6** 2 **dxc6** 2 **7.dxe5** 1 **Nf5** 2 **8.Qxd8+** 2 **Kxd8** 2 **9.h3** 2 **h6** 53 **10.Nc3** 5 **Bd7** 15 **11.b3** 21 **c5** 51 C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4.
[Don't do 11...Bb4 12.Ne4±]
12.Rd1 36 **Kc8!** 18 **13.Nd5** 21 **a5** 1:34 Black has an edge. **14.a4** 30 **Ne7** 39 **15.c4** 42 **Bf5** 14 **16.Ra2** 1:07

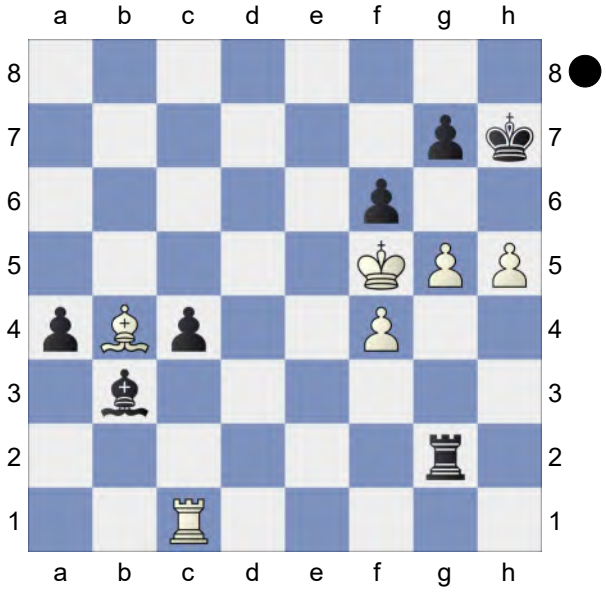


Nxd5N 1:51
[Predecessor: 16...Ra6 17.Nc3 g5 18.Rad2 Nc6 19.Nd5 Bg7 20.Bb2 Be4 21.Re2 Bxf3 22.gxf3 Re8 1-0 Shirov,A (2705)-Naiditsch,A (2712) ESP-chT CECLUB Honor 2011 (3)]
17.cxd5 2
[17.Rxd5 Be7∓]
17...Be7 1:43 **18.Nd2** 49 **Rd8** 30 **19.Nc4** 1 **b6** 4 **20.Re2** 3:46 **h5** 1:17

21.f3 2:25 **h4** 16 **22.d6** 7 **Be6** 52 **23.Ree1** 36
[23.dxe7? perishes. Rxd1+ 24.Kh2 Kd7-+]
23...Bf8 27 **24.Bg5** 21 **Rd7** 2 **25.Bxh4** 4 **Kb7** 2:11 Black is weak on the dark squares **26.dxc7** 2 And now Rxd7 would win. **26...Rxd1** 19 **27.Rxd1** 3 aiming for Rd8. **27...Kxc7** 1 **28.Be1** 51 **Be7** 43 **29.g4** 30 **Kc6** 19 **30.h4** 48 White is more active.
[30.f4±]
30...b5= 21 **31.axb5+** 42 **Kxb5** 2 **32.Nd6+** 4 **Bxd6** 19 **33.exd6** 2 **Bxb3∓** 1 Endgame KRB-KRB **34.Rc1** 19
[34.Rd3∓ Bc4 35.Re3]
34...Kc6 13
[Better is 34...f6∓ 35.h5 a4]
35.d7= 12 **a4** 8 **36.Bc3** 12
[36.Ba5= Kxd7 37.Rxc5]
36...f6∓ 2
[Don't play 36...Kxd7 37.Bxg7 f5 38.g5=]
37.Bb4 37



c4! 4 **38.Kf2** 5 **Rd8** 3 **39.h5** 2 **Rxd7** 1 **40.Ke3** 6 **Kd5** 4 **41.Bf8** 9 **Rf7** 1 **42.Ba3** 1 **Rc7** 3 **43.Bb4** 1 **Rb7** 3 **44.Bf8** 2 **Ra7** 2 **45.Ba3** 1 **Rd7** 7 **46.Bf8** 5 **Ke6** 2 **47.Kf4** 5 **Kf7** 2 **48.Bc5** 6
[White should try 48.Bb4]
48...Rd3 2 **49.Bb4** 4 **Kg8** 6 **50.Ke4** 1 **Kh7** 3 **51.f4** 1 **Rg3** 1 **52.Kf5** 1 **Rg2** 6 **53.g5** 7

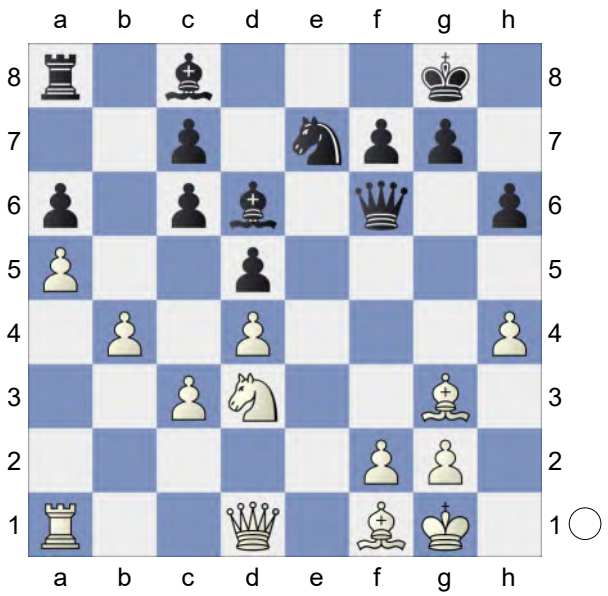


Bc2+! 1 Deflection **54.Ke6** 1 **fxg5** 3 **55.fxg5** 1 **Bd3** 5 **56.Be7** 3
[56.g6+∓ feels stronger. Kh6 57.Rh1]
56...g6 3
[56...Re2+∓ 57.Kf7 Re5]
57.h6= 3 The position is equal.
57...Re2+ 2 **58.Kf7** 2 **Rf2+** 6 **59.Bf6** 11 **a3** 2 **60.Re1** 0 White threatens Re7 and mate. **60...Re2** 1 **61.Rxe2** 2 **Bxe2** 1 **62.Kf8** 3 **a2** 2 **63.Be5** 1 **Bd3** 3
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

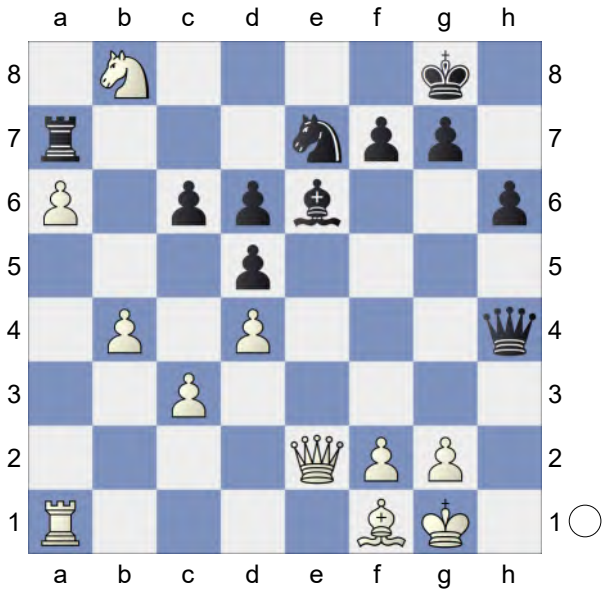
145 **C67**
□ **ProteusSFX-AI** **3159**
■ **ChessatronBot** **2454**
Rapid 27.03.2024
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 8min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 0-0 8.Nf3 Nf5 9.c3 d5** White has an edge. **10.d4 Bd6 11.a4N**
[11.Bd3 Nce7 *(11...Re8 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3 Nxe3 14.fxe3 f5 15.Qc2 Qf6 16.Qb3 Ne7 17.Nbd2 Kh8 18.c4 c6 19.Rf1 Qh6 20.Rae1 b6 21.Qc2 g6 22.cxd5 cxd5 23.Bb5 Rf8 24.Bc6 Rb8 25.Ne5 Bxe5 26.dxe5* De Wit,E (1563)-Zecha,O (1879) Almelo 2023 0-1 (34)*)* 12.Nbd2 c6 13.Nf1 Ng6 14.Qc2 Nfh4 15.Nxh4 Qxh4 16.g3 Qh3 *(16...Qd8 17.Ne3 Re8 18.Bd2 Nf8 19.Nf5 Bc7 20.Rxe8 Qxe8 21.Re1 Be6 22.Qc1 f6 23.Qd1 Qd7 24.Qf3 Re8 25.h4 Bf7 26.Rf1 Bg6 27.h5 Bxf5 28.Bxf5 Qf7 29.Kg2 g6 30.Bd3 f5 31.Rh1* Molina,R (2826)-Buchicchio,G (2800) B) 8... ♖b8 2010 World Championship [Nastasio,Davide] ½-½ (68) *)* 17.f4 Bg4 18.f5 Ne7 19.Ne3 Bf3 20.Qf2 Qh5 21.Rf1 Bg4 22.f6 gxf6 23.Nxg4 Qxg4 24.Qxf6 Bxg3 25.Kh1 Bh4 Anand,V (2784)-Nakamura,H (2787) Zürich 2016 CBM 171 [Ramirez Alvarez,Alejandro] ½-½ (36)]
[11.g3 Re8 12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Bd3 h6 14.Nbd2 Bf8 15.Nf1 Nce7 16.Bf4 c6 17.Qc2 g5 18.Be5 Bg7 19.Re1 f6 20.Bc7 Bf8 21.Ne3 Qd7 22.Nxf5 Nxf5 23.Bd8 Bg7 24.Bxf6 Qf7 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 Bartel,M (2651)-Anton Guijarro,D (2653) Germany 2024 CBM 221 Extra [Krasenkow,Michal] ½-½ (60)]
[11.Nbd2 Nce7 12.Qc2 c6 13.Bd3 g6 14.Nf1 f6 15.h3 Rf7 16.Bd2 Bd7 17.Re2 c5 18.dxc5 Bxc5 19.Bf4 Rc8 20.Rae1 g5 21.Ng3 Nxg3 22.Bxg3 a5 23.Qd2 a4 24.b4 axb3 25.axb3 Ng6 Sanjuan Garcia,M (2649)-Deslandes,P (2817) Deutschland 80/340 2017 CBM 195 [Mason, BCM 1903 p40 Chess in Manchester] 1-0 (42)]
11...Be6 12.Na3 a6 13.Nc2 Na5 14.Nb4 Re8 15.Nd3 Bc8 0.66/16
[15...Nh4= 0.26/16 should be considered.]
16.Nde5± h6 17.b4 Nc6 18.Nxc6 Rxe1 19.Nxe1 bxc6 20.a5 Qf6 21.Bd2 0.45/19
[21.Qf3± 0.84/17]
21...Ne7 1.00/21 Black is on the road to losing.
[Don't play 21...Qh4 22.g3 Qd8 23.Qh5±]
[Better is 21...Nh4± 0.45/19]
22.Nd3 Qg6 23.Bf4 Qf6 24.Bg3 &Bianco is more active. **24...Qg5 25.h4** 0.99/22
[⌓25.Nc5 1.39/19]
25...Qf6

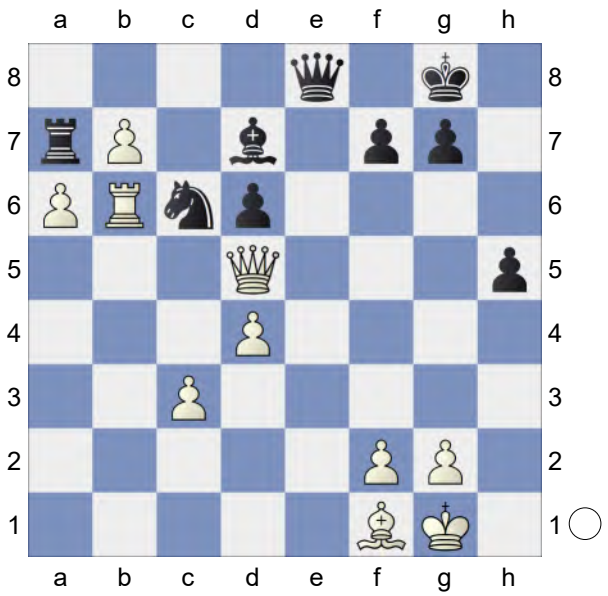
(Diagram)



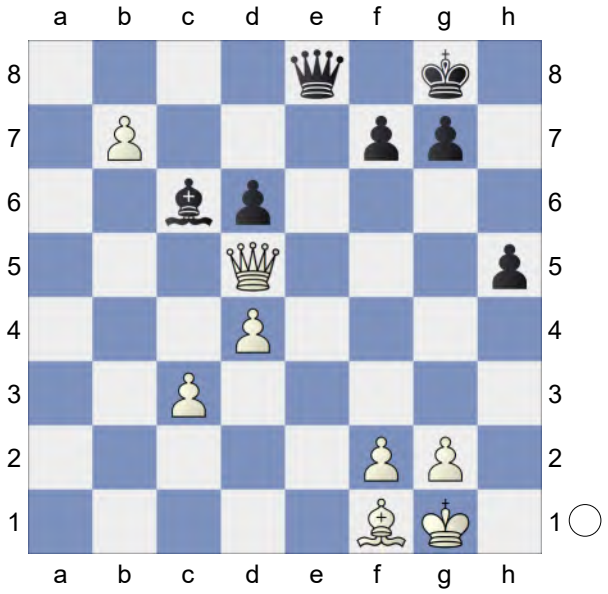
26.Qe2! Be6 1.76/21
[26...Kf8± 1.31/20 27.Re1 Qe6]
27.Nc5+- Ra7 2.55/22
[⌓27...Nf5 1.74/20 28.Be5 Qxh4]
28.Nxa6 Nf5 29.Bxd6 cxd6 30.Nb8 Ne7 31.a6 Qxh4



32.Nxc6! Nxc6 33.b5 Bd7 34.b6
[Weaker is 34.bxc6 Bxc6 35.Rb1 Qd8+-]
34...Ra8 35.b7 Ra7 36.Qb5 Qd8 37.Qxd5 Qf8 7.07/21
[⌓37...Qc7 4.51/18 38.Re1 g6]
38.Rb1 h5 39.Rb6 Qe8



40.Rxc6! Rxb7 41.axb7 Bxc6



42.Qxc6!! Qxc6 43.b8Q+ Kh7 44.c4 Qd7 45.c5 dxc5 46.dxc5 Kg6 47.Qb6+ Kg5 48.c6 Qd6 49.Qb7 White wants to mate with c7. **49...Qd5 50.Qe7+ Kg6 51.c7 Qc6 52.Qd8 f5 53.c8Q Qxc8 54.Qxc8 Kf6 55.Qd8+ Ke5 56.f4+ Kxf4 57.Qe7** Threatening mate with Be2. **57...h4 58.Kf2** White mates. **58...Kg4 59.Be2+ Kf4 60.Qe3#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
1-0

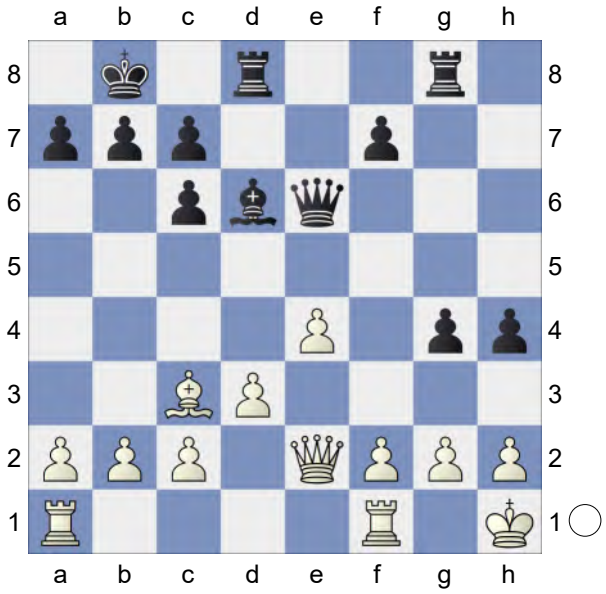
146 **C48**
□ **Aronian,Levon** **2727**
■ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2745**
Sinquefield Cup 10th (9) 30.11.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 Inf 90/(286) **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.Nc3 Bd7**
[6...0-0 7.Na4 Nd4 8.Nxc5 Nxb5 9.a4 Nd4 10.Nxd4 dxc5 11.Nb5 Ne8 12.f4 c6 13.Nc3 exf4 14.Bxf4 Nc7 15.Be3 Ne6 16.Ne2 Nd4 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.Qe1 Qd6 19.Qh4 Qe5 20.Rf3 Bd7 21.Raf1 1-0 Svidler, P (2747)-Kramnik,V (2777) Monaco (rapid) 2004]
7.Na4! is recently more successful than 7.Bg5. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7. Lg5. **7...Bb6 8.c3 h6N**
[8...Ne7 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.Bxd7+ *(10.Bc4 Ng6 11.h3 Be6 12.Bxe6 fxe6 13.Qb3 Qe7* 10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2762)-4. ♘f3 ♗g7 5. ♗c4 c6_3932 (2662) Jugoslavija 66/399 1996 *)* 10...Qxd7 11.Bg5 Ng6 12.Bxf6 gxf6 13.Nd2 f5 14.Nc4 f4 15.Qh5 0-0 16.d4 Rae8 17.Rfe1 f5 18.dxe5 b5 19.Nd2 Nxe5 20.Qh3 fxe4 21.Qxd7 Nxd7 22.Nxe4 d5 23.Rad1 Chapter Cg-Games Chapter 5 CG]
9.Re1N
[Vorgänger: 9.Nxb6 axb6 10.Ba4 0-0 11.Bc2 Re8 12.h3 d5 13.Qe2 Be6 14.a3 b5 15.Re1 dxe4 16.dxe4 ½-½ Spraggett,K (2584)-Jonkman,H (2425) Canadian op Kapuskasing 2004 (3)]
9...0-0 10.Nxb6 axb6 11.Nd2 Re8 12.Nf1 Ne7 13.Bxd7 Qxd7 14.d4 Ng6 White must now prevent ...e5xd4. **15.Ng3 b5 16.f3 Rad8**
[16...Qc6 seems wilder. 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nf5 Qc4]
17.dxe5! Nxe5 18.Bf4! c5 0.38/20
[18...Qe6= 0.00/18]
19.Qd2
[19.Bxe5 simplifies dxe5 20.Qxd7 Rxd7 21.Nf1]
19...d5 20.Bxe5 Rxe5 21.Rad1! Black should prevent f3-f4. **21...dxe4 22.Qxd7 Rxd7 23.Nxe4**
[Reject 23.fxe4 Rxd1 24.Rxd1 h5∓ *(24...Nxe4 25.Re1=)*]
23...Rxd1 24.Nxf6+ gxf6 25.Rxd1= Endgame KR-KR **25...Re2 26.Rd5 Rxb2 27.Rxc5 Rxa2 28.Rxb5 Rc2 29.Rxb7 Rxc3** The position is equal. **30.Rb8+ Kg7 31.Rb7 Kg8 32.Rb8+ Kg7 33.Rb7 Kg8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0. 05 (flawless)
½-½

147 **C65**
□ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2777**
■ **Bharath,Subramaniyam H** **2561**
Masters Open 2024 (7.6) 10.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

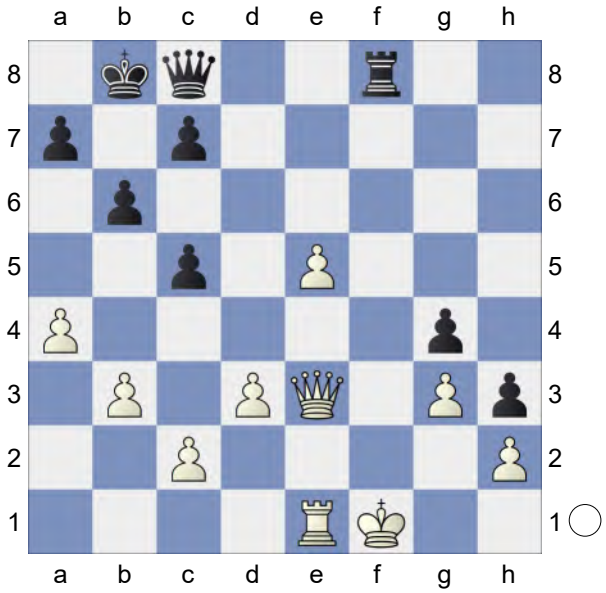
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Bg4 0.47/23
[6...Nd7= 0.08/22]
7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 The position is equal. **8...Qe7 9.Nbd2! 0-0-0 10.Bg3 g5N** 0.64/22
[Better is 10...Rhe8= 0.00/20]
[10...Nd7 11.h3 Bh5 12.c3 a6 13.b4 Ba7 14.a4 g5 15.Qc2 Bxf3

16.Nxf3 h5 17.h4 f6 18.Rfd1
26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6...]
11.Bxe5± Rhg8 12.Bc3 Nh5 13.Kh1 Nf4 14.Qe1 h5 15.Ng1 Be6 16.Nb3 -0.31/23
[16.Ne2± 0.37/21]
16...Bd6 0.78/24
[16...Bb6!∓ -0.31/23 stays ahead.]
17.Nd4 h4 18.Nxe6 Qxe6 19.Qe3 Kb8 0.66/22
[19...f5!= 0.30/23 should be considered.]
20.Ne2 Nxe2 21.Qxe2 g4 1.03/24
[21...f5± 0.53/20]



Dodges Qf3 **22.f4** 0.57/21
[22.f3!± 1.03/24]
22...f5 23.Rae1 h3 24.g3 Rde8 25.b3 Rgf8 26.a4 c5 1.21/23
[⌓26...b6 0.79/20]
27.Kg1± Qd7 28.Qf2 b6 29.exf5 1.01/21
[⌓29.a5 1.42/24]
29...Qxf5 2.06/23
[29...c4± 1.01/21 was called for.]
30.Be5 Bxe5 31.fxe5 Qc8 32.Qe3 aiming for Rxf8. **32...Rxf1+ 33.Kxf1**

Endgame. Hoping for e6. KQR-KQR
33...Rf8+? 2.86/26
[33...c4± 0.85/21]



Black cannot hold the game after this.
34.Ke2!+- Qe6 35.Qe4 a5 36.Rf1 Rxf1 5.38/19
[36...Re8 2.55/20 keeps fighting. 37.Rf5 c4]
37.Kxf1 KQ-KQ. White is clearly winning. **37...Qh6 38.Kf2**
[38.Qxg4 Qc1+ 39.Kf2 Qxc2+ 40.Qe2 *(40.Ke3? Qxh2 41.Qg8+ Ka7-+)* 40...Qxb3+-]
38...Qc1 39.Qe2 e6! would now be deadly.
[39.Qxg4 Qxc2+ 40.Qe2 *(40.Ke3? Qxh2 41.Qg8+ Ka7-+)* 40...Qxb3+-]
39...Qh1 40.Ke3
[40.Qxg4? Qxh2+ 41.Ke3 Qg1+ *(41...Qxc2 42.Qxh3 Qxb3 43.Qg4±)* 42.Kd2 h2 43.Qg8+ Ka7-+]
40...c6 41.e6
[Weaker is 41.Qxg4 Qxh2 42.e6 *(42.Qg8+ Ka7=)* 42...Qg1+ 43.Kd2 h2+- *(43...Qf2+ 44.Qe2±)*]
41...Qc1+ 42.Kf2 Intending e7! and mate. **42...Qh1 43.e7**

[43.Qxg4 Qxh2+ 44.Ke3 Qg1+ 45.Kd2 Qf2+ 46.Qe2 Qxe2+ 47.Kxe2 h2±]

43...Qxh2+ 44.Ke3 Qxg3+ 45.Ke4

Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.44

1-0

148 **C67**

□ **Moussard,Jules** **2595**

■ **Navara,David** **2677**

Djerba Festival Masters 2025 (3.1)

[Kitty Kat]

Slow 90min+30sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Sagar Shah: 'We are now into the final leg of the match. With eight games completed, the score stands at 4.5-3.5 in favour of Carlsen. Anand's strategy has been pretty simple. He wants to take his chances with the white pieces and wants to hold with black. Even though very few games remain in the match, Anand felt it was not the right moment to press with black. And Magnus was pretty fine with what happened today. Let's have a look at another Berlin. We are now into the final leg of the match. With eight games completed, the score stands at 4.5-3.5 in favour of Carlsen. Anand's strategy has been pretty simple. He wants to take his chances with the white pieces and wants to hold with black. Even though very few games remain in the match, Anand felt it was not the right moment to press with black. And Magnus was pretty fine with what happened today. Let's have a look at another Berlin. Tadic, Branko: 'There are just 4 games to go until the end of the match and with 4 draws Carlsen would protect his WCC title thanks to his 1-point lead. Both players are clearly a bit tired, but usually we see Carlsen in very good physical condition and playing every game until the end. What we are going to see in the current game is the opposite. Clearly Carlsen decided to just take a "rest day" and focus on defending with the black pieces in the next game. We will see a short and very boring draw, but an important one for the theory of the Berlin. Anand seems to close one of the lines here.' Arkadij Naiditsch: 'There are just 4 games to go until the end of the match and with 4 draws Carlsen would protect his WCC title thanks to his 1-point lead. Both players are clearly a bit tired, but usually we see Carlsen in very good physical condition and playing every game until the end. What we are going to see in the current game is the opposite. Clearly Carlsen decided to just take a "rest day" and focus on defending with the black pieces in the next game. We will see a short and very boring draw, but an important one for the theory of the Berlin. Anand seems to close one of the lines here.'' **1.e4** 3:04 **e5** 11 **2.Nf3** 8 **Nc6** 5 **3.Bb5** 8 **Nf6** 4 **4.0-0** 35 **Nxe4** 4 **5.d4** 6 **Nd6** 6 **6.Bxc6** 10 **dxc6** 10 **7.dxe5** 4 **Nf5** 13 **8.Qxd8+** 9 **Kxd8** 7 **9.Nc3** 10 **Ke8** 3:05 **10.h3** 1:00 **h5** 8 **11.Ne2** 1:04 **b6** 4:05 **12.Rd1** 2:00 **Be7** 5:47 White has an edge.

[12...Ba6 13.Nf4 Bb7 14.e6 Bd6 15.exf7+ Kxf7 16.Ng5+ Kf6 17.Ne4+ Kf7 18.Ng5+ Kf6 19.Ne4+ Kf7 20.Ng5+ ½-½ Carlsen,M (2863)-Anand,V (2792) WCh 2014 Sochi (9)]

[12...Bb7 13.Ned4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Be7 15.Nf5 Rg8 16.Bf4 g5 17.Bh2 c5 18.e6 fxe6 19.Nxe7 Kxe7 20.Bxc7 Rac8 21.Be5 Be4 22.Rd2

Rcd8 23.Re2 Bf5 24.f3 h4 25.Rae1 Rd7 ½-½ Stevic,H (2565)-Brkic,A (2602) BIH-chT 20th Neum 2022 (7.1)]

13.Bg5 2:49 **Bb7** 7:41 **14.Nf4N** 23:49

[14.Bxe7 simplifies Kxe7 15.Nf4 *(15.Ned4 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 c5 17.Nb5 Rhc8 18.f4 Bc6 19.Nc3 Ke6 20.Kf2 h4 21.a4 Kf5 22.Ke3 Re8 23.Nd5 Rac8 24.Rd2 f6 25.Rf1 fxe5 26.fxe5+ Kg5 27.Nc3 Rxe5+ 28.Kf2 Rf8+ 29.Kg1 Rxf1+* Model Games-Vachier Lagrave,M *30.Kxf1 Rf5+ 31.Kg1 Rf4 32.Re2 Kf6 33.b3 a6 34.Nd1 Bd5 35.c4 Be6 36.a5 Rd4 37.Nf2 Bf5 38.Ra2 Rd6 39.Kf1 Ke5 40.Re2+ Kf4 41.Ra2 g5 42.Ke1 Re6+ 43.Kf1 Re3* 0-1 Vachier Lagrave,M (2773)-Giri,A (2784) London Classic 7th Tiebreak rapid 2015 (1.1) *)* 15...c5 16.Ng5]

14...f6 19:51

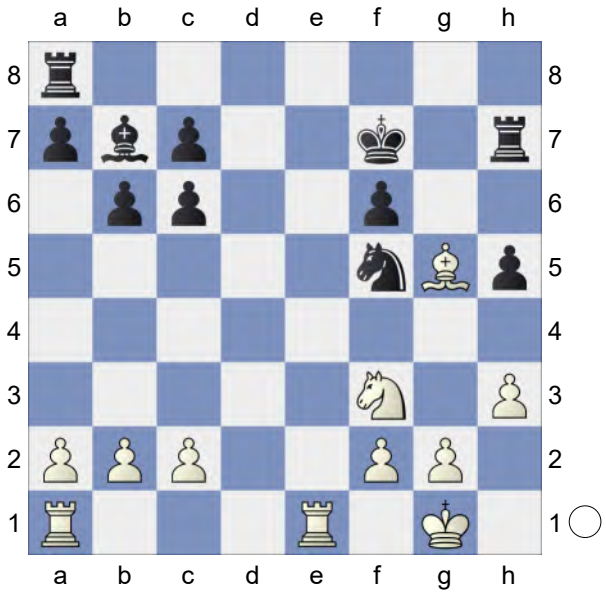
[14...c5 simplifies 15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.Rxd5 Rd8]

15.Ng6 19:00 **Rh7** 6:32 **16.Nxe7** -0.01/23 25:42

[16.Nfh4± 0.36/19 Nxh4 17.Bxh4]

16...Kxe7= 8 **17.exf6+** 16 **gxf6** 7 **18.Re1+** 15 **Kf7** 27

(Diagram)



19.Rad1! 18 Repels c5. Threatens to win with Rd7+. **19...Rg7** 9:41 Black is weak on the dark squares **20.Rd7+** 13 **Kg8** 28 **21.Rxg7+** 16 **Kxg7** 21 **22.Bf4** 10 **c5** 21 **23.Nd2** 4:43 **Rd8** 3:02 **24.f3** 1:10 **Rd4** 10:02 **25.Ne4** 13 **Bxe4** 7 **26.Rxe4** 1:31 Endgame. KRB-KRN **26...Rd1+** 8 **27.Kf2** 2:16 **Rb1** 26 **28.g4** 13

[28.Bxc7 Rxb2 29.Ra4 a5∓ *(29...Rxc2+? 30.Kg1-+)*]

28...hxg4 1:11 **29.fxg4** 24

[29.Bxc7? gxh3 *(29...Rxb2 30.fxg4 Nd4 31.Kg3∓)* 30.b3 Rb2-+]

[29.hxg4 Nd4 30.Be3 *(30.Bxc7? Rxb2 31.Kg3 Rxc2∓)* 30...Rxb2 31.Bxd4 Rxc2+ *(31...cxd4 32.Rxd4 Rxc2+ 33.Kg3∓)* 32.Ke3 cxd4+ 33.Rxd4 Kg6∓ *(33...Rxa2 34.Rd7+ Kg6 35.Rxc7∓)*]

29...Nd4 6:10 **30.Re7+** 5 **Kg6?** 1.69/23 20

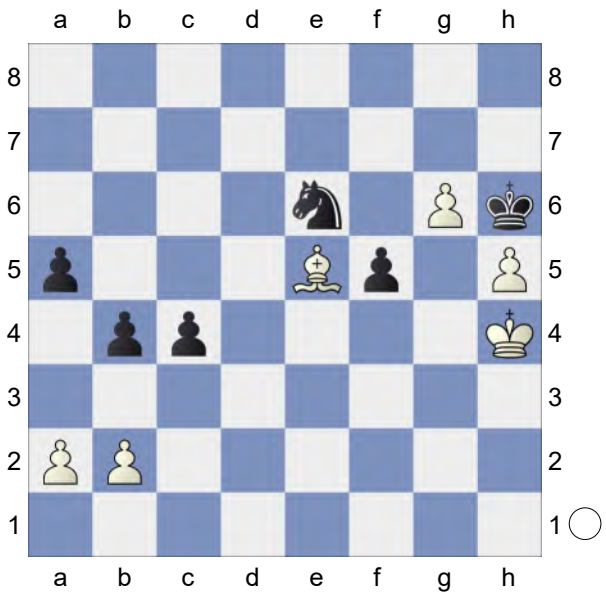
[30...Kg8= -0.01/20 and Black has nothing to worry.]

31.h4+- 2:58

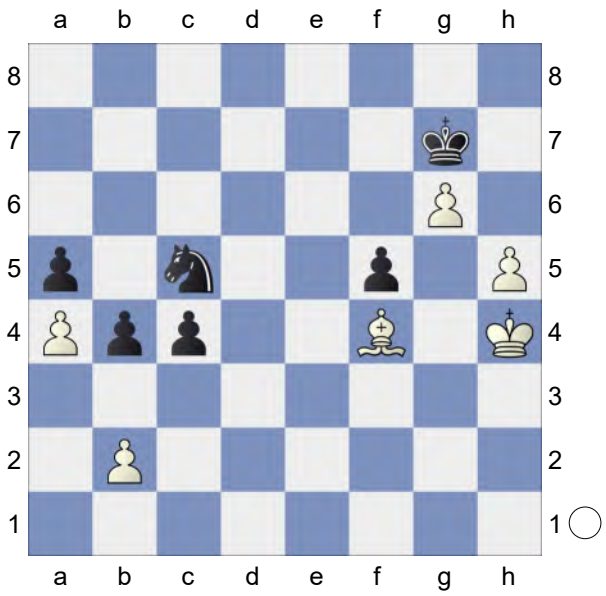
[31.Bxc7 Rxb2 *(31...Nxc2? 32.h4+-)* 32.h4 f5 *(32...Nxc2? 33.h5+ Kg5 34.Kg3+-; 32...Rxc2+ 33.Kf1=; 32...Rxa2 33.h5+ Kg5*

34.Rg7+ Kh6 35.Rg6+ Kh7 36.Rxf6±) 33.h5+ Kf6=]
[31.Rxc7? Ne6 *(31...Nxc2? 32.h4+-)* 32.Rxa7 Nxf4-+]
31...f5 5 **32.h5+!** 1:23
[32.Bxc7 fxg4 *(32...Nxc2? 33.h5+ Kg5 34.Rg7+ Kf6 35.Rg6+ Kf7 36.g5+-)* 33.b3 Rb2= *(33...Nxc2 34.Re4=)*]
32...Kf6 5 **33.Re1** 40
[33.Rxc7 fxg4 34.h6 *(34.Rxa7 Rxb2 35.h6 Rxc2+ 36.Kg3 Ne2+ 37.Kxg4 Nxf4±)* 34...Ne6=]
33...Rxe1 8:40 **34.g5+** 3 **Kg7** 9
35.Kxe1 4 **Nxc2+** 3.26/26 14 KB-KN
[35...c6 1.80/22 is a better defense. 36.c4 Ne6]
36.Kf2 49 **Nd4** 1:02 **37.Be5+** 2:46 **Kh7** 11 **38.g6+** 4:27
[38.Bxc7 Ne6 39.g6+ Kh6±]
38...Kh6 5 **39.Bf4+** 3
[39.Bxc7 Ne6 40.Be5 b5+-]
[39.g7 Kh7±]
39...Kg7 7 **40.Bxc7** 6 **Ne6** 32 **41.Bb8** 3 **Kh6** 59 **42.Be5!** 3:31
[42.Bxa7 b5±]
42...b5 4:33 **43.Kg3** 1:01 aiming for Kh4. **43...c4?** 3.23/25 3:07
[43...Kxh5? 44.g7 Nxg7 45.Bxg7+-]
[43...a5± 1.38/22 keeps fighting. 44.Kh4 c4]
44.Kh4? 0.82/26 1:57
[44.a3+- 3.23/25 and the rest is easy.]
44...b4± 2:01 **45.Bf6** 3 **a6?** 3.31/25 4:47
[Better is 45...a5!± 0.69/24]
46.Be5+- 25 **a5** 6

(Diagram)



47.a4! 26 **Nc5** 1.91/24 3:35
[⌓47...f4 3.33/24 48.Kg4 b3]
48.Bf4+ 1:02 **Kg7** 5 **49.Be5+?** 0.01/14 1
[But not 49.Kg5? Ne6+ 50.Kxf5 Nxf4 51.Kxf4 c3 52.bxc3 b3-+]
[49.Bc7+- 2.66/26 Ne4 50.Bxa5]
49...Kh6= 7 **50.Bf4+** 1:02 **Kg7** 6

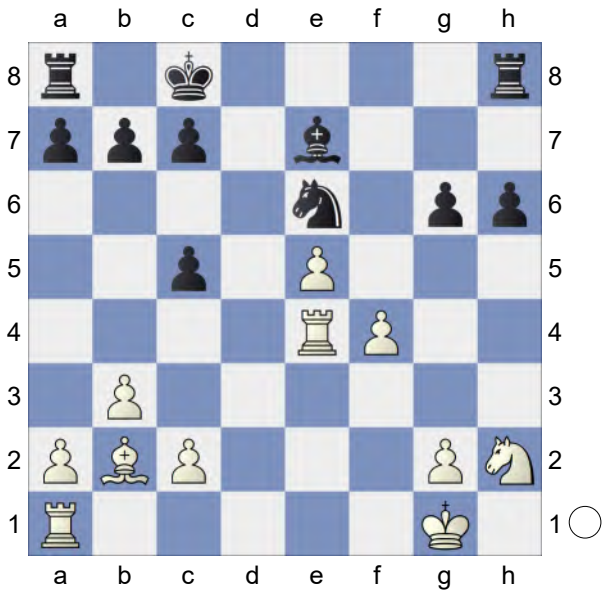


51.Be5+? 0.01/46 20 Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.35
[51.Kg5 Ne6+ 52.Kxf5 Nxf4 53.Kxf4 c3 54.bxc3 b3-+]

[51.Bc7!+- 2.21/25 Ne4 52.Bxa5]
½-½

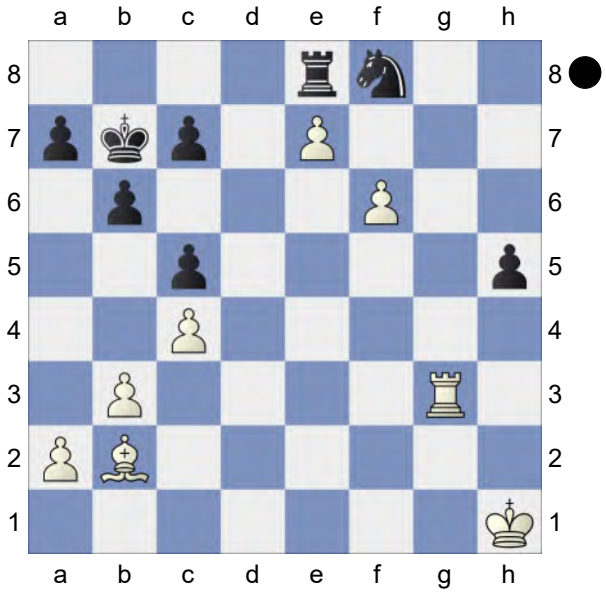
149 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2839**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2780**
Chess.com Speed Chess blitz (4.16)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Inf 83/317 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 Kc8 11.b3 h6 12.Bb2 Ne7**
[12...b6 13.Rad1 Ne7 14.Rd2 c5 15.Rfd1 *(15.Ne2 Ng6 16.c4 Bc6 17.Ne1 Kb7 18.f4 Re8 19.Nf3 Ne7 20.Ng3 b5 21.cxb5 Bxb5 22.Rc1 Ng6 23.Nh5 Bc6 24.Kf2 Kb6 25.Ba3 Be4 26.Rc4 Bb7 27.Rdc2 f6 28.Nxg7 Rc8 29.exf6 Bd5* Alekseev,E (2626)-Kantans,T (2499) chess.com (Int.-blitz) 146/(42) 2020 [Abramovic,Bosko] (31)*)* 15...Be6 16.Ne2 g5 17.h4 g4 18.Nh2 h5 19.Rd8+ Kb7 20.Rxa8 Kxa8 21.Rd8+ Kb7 22.Nf4 Ng6 23.g3 c4 24.bxc4 Nxf4 25.gxf4 g3 26.Nf1 gxf2+ 27.Kh2 Anand,V (2794)-Kramnik,V (2802) Mainz (m-rapid) 2001 Inf 83 [RR] 0-1]
13.Ne2!? Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **13...Ng6 14.Rfe1** -0.21/28
[White should try 14.Nd2± 0.42/21]
14...c5N 0.29/24
[Vorgänger: ⌓14...a5 -0.21/28 15.a4 Bb4 16.Red1 Re8 17.Ng3! Nf4 18.e6 Bxe6 ...f6 is the strong threat. 19.Bxg7 Bd5 20.Bxh6 Nxh3+! 21.Kf1 aiming for Nd4. Bxf3 22.gxf3 And now Kg2 would win. Rg8 23.Be3 Bd6 24.Rd2 b6 25.Rad1 Kb7 26.Kg2 ½-½ Karjakin,S (2772)-Bruzon Batista,L (2682) Poikovsky Karpov 12th 2011 (5) ½-½ Karjakin,S (2772)-Bruzon Batista,L (2682) Poikovsky Karpov 12th 2011 (5)]
15.h4= Bg4 16.Nh2 Bxe2 17.Rxe2 Hoping for g3. **17...Nf4** 1.60/21 White stays focused until the end.
[Better is 17...Nxh4± 0.60/22 18.Re4 Be7]
18.Re4± Ne6 19.h5 &Bianco is more active. **19...Be7 20.f4 g6** 2.31/17
[20...b5± 1.46/23]
21.hxg6+- fxg6



22.g4! Rf8 23.Rf1 Ng7 24.e6 Ne8 25.f5 gxf5 26.gxf5 h5 27.Ref4 Nf6 28.Rh4 Rg8+ 29.Kh1 Rg5 30.Rhf4 b6 31.Nf3 Rg8 32.Ne5 Bd6 33.Ng6 Bxf4 34.Ne7+
[Not 34.Nxf4 Ne4 35.Kh2 *(35.Nxh5? Rg5-+)* 35...Rg4=]
[Less strong is 34.Bxf6 Bd6±]
34...Kb7 35.Nxg8 Rxg8 36.Rxf4 Endgame KRB-KRN **36...Nd5 37.Rf3**

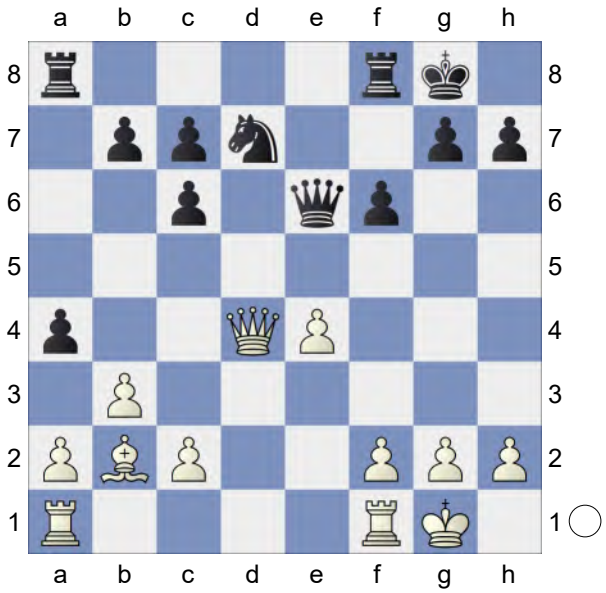
Re8 38.c4 Ne7 39.f6 Ng6 40.Rg3 Nf8 41.e7



Black must now prevent Rg8. **41...Nd7 42.Re3 Nxf6 43.Bxf6** KRB-KR **43...Kc6 44.Rd3 h4** White mates. **45.Rd8 Rxe7 46.Bxe7 h3 47.Kh2 a6 48.Kxh3 b5 49.Kg4 b4 50.Rd5 a5 51.Rxc5+ Kd7 52.Bf6 c6 53.Rxa5 Kd6 54.Bd4 c5 55.Bxc5+ Ke5 56.Bxb4+ Ke4 57.Rd5 Ke3 58.Kg3 Ke4 59.a4 Ke3 60.a5 Ke4 61.a6 Ke3 62.a7 Ke2 63.a8Q Kf1 64.Qa1+ Ke2 65.Qe1#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) / Black=0.24 (precise)
1-0

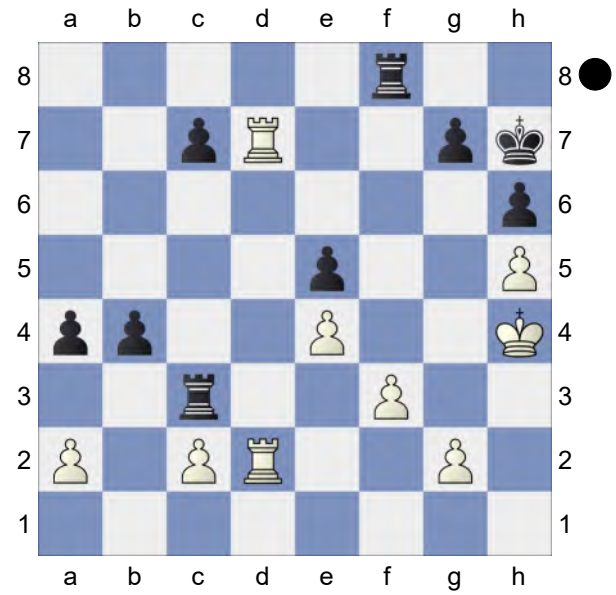
150 **C65**
□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2742**
■ **Eljanov,Pavel** **2691**
Chennai Grand Masters 2023 (1.3)
[TA]

Bullet 1min **1.e4** 4 **e5** 22 **2.Nf3** 6 **Nc6** 4 **3.Bb5** 7 **Nf6** 19 **4.d3** 8 **Bc5** 35 **5.Bxc6** 8 **dxc6** 5 **6.Nbd2** 14 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5. **6...Be6** 2:04 **7.0-0** 55 **Qd6** 2:33 7...Bd6 is setting a new trend. **8.b3** 1:56 White has an edge. **8...a5** 49 8...Nd7 is not played anymore. **9.Bb2** 20 d4 would be deadly. **9...Nd7** 10 **10.Ng5** 1:56 **a4** 6:55 **11.Ndf3** 49 **f6** 4:14 **12.Nxe6** 19 **Qxe6** 3 **13.d4** 1:15 **exd4** 9:09 **14.Nxd4** 8 **Bxd4** 3:27 **15.Qxd4** 3:00 **0-0** 11

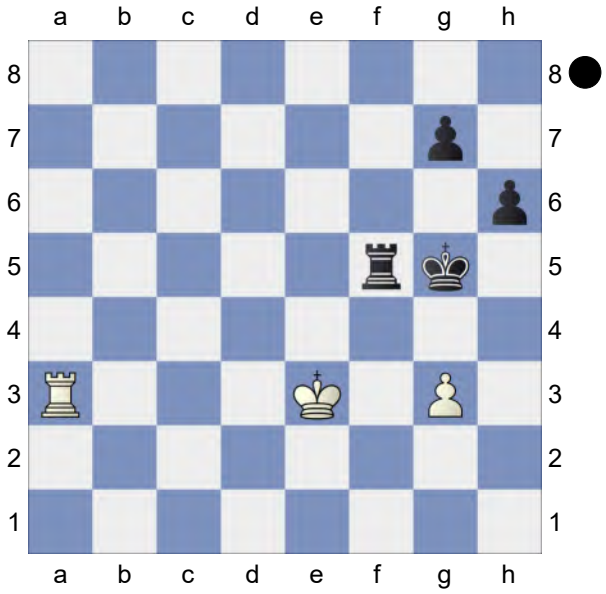


16.Rfe1N 15:37
[Predecessor: 16.Rfd1 Rf7 17.f3 b6 18.Qd3 Nf8 19.Qe2 Re7 20.Rd4 Ree8 21.Bc3 axb3 22.axb3 Rxa1+ 23.Bxa1 Ra8 24.Bc3 b5 25.Rd1 Qe7 26.Kf1 Ne6 ½-½ Hablizel,F (2301)-Popov,V (2087) DE WebServ 10th prel 16 email 2016]
16...c5 8:58 **17.Qd3** 7:23 **Ne5** 3:55 **18.Qg3** 2:55 **b5** 7:24 **19.f3** 4:44 **b4** 5:27 **20.h4** 20:01 **c4** 5:24 **21.Bxe5** 8 **fxe5** 34 **22.bxc4** 10 **Ra5** 5:16 **23.Rad1** 3:13 **Rc5** 1:21 **24.Rd5** 4:46 **Rxc4** 6 **25.Re2** 3:22 **Re8** 6:28 **26.Red2** 58 **h6** 3:55 **27.h5** 1:52 **Kh7** 8:22 **28.Rd7** 10:09 **Rg8** 43 **29.Kh2** 4:24 **Rc6** 50 **30.R7d5** 5:49 **Re8!** 22 **31.Rd7** 4 **Rg8** 34 **32.Qh3** 18 Black must now prevent Qxe6. **32...Qf6** 5:39 **33.Qg4** 20
[33.Qf5+ simplifies Kh8 34.Kh3

Qxf5+ 35.exf5 Rf8 36.g4]
33...Rc3 3:48 **34.Kg3** 3:15 **Rf8** 2:24
35.Qh4 1:52
[35.R7d3=]
35...Qxh4+∓ 1:12 **36.Kxh4** 4 Endgame



KRR-KRR **36...Rf4+!** 20
[Don't play 36...Ra3?! 37.Rxc7 Rxa2 38.Rdd7=]
37.Kg3 7 **Rxe4** 10 **38.Rxc7** 20 **Rxc7** 1:21 **39.fxe4** 4 KR-KR **39...Rc3+** 24
[Black should play 39...Rc4∓ 40.Kf3 g6 41.Rd7+ Kh8]
40.Kg4= 5 **Ra3** 17 **41.c4** 30:56
[But not 41.Kf5? Rxa2 42.Kxe5 b3 43.cxb3 Rxd2-+]
41...Rc3 32:00
[41...bxc3? 42.Rc2+-]
42.Kf5 4 **Rxc4** 17 **43.Kxe5** 6 **b3** 2:05 **44.axb3** 7 **axb3** 3 **45.Rb2** 1:17 **Rb4** 5 **46.Kd5** 18 **Kg8** 7 **47.Kc5** 1:37 **Rxe4** 14 aiming for ...Re5+. **48.Rxb3** 4 **Rg4** 55 **49.g3** 1:19 **Kf7** 4 **50.Kd5** 38 **Kf6** 13 ...Kg5 is the strong threat. **51.Re3?** 1:05 This costs White the game.
[51.Kd6∓]
51...Rg5+-+ 50 **52.Kd4** 22 **Rxh5** 7 **53.Ra3** 3:36 **Re5** 1:12
[⌓53...Kg5 (→ ...Kg4) 54.Ke3 Kg4]
54.Rf3+ 1:57
[54.Ra6+-+ Re6 55.Ra5]
54...Rf5 34 Black mates. **55.Ra3** 2 **Kg5** 22 **56.Ke3** 1:03

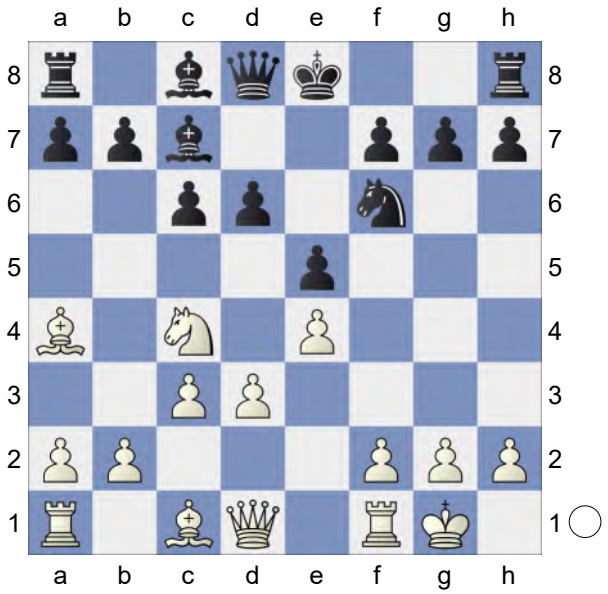


Kg4! 15 **57.Ke2** 3 **g5** 1:05 **58.Rb3** 14 **h5** 26 **59.Ra3** 4 **Kh3** 17 **60.Rb3** 17 **Kg2** 44 **61.Re3** 25 **Rf2+** 23 Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.15 (very precise)
0-1

151 **C65**
□ **Vokhidov,Shamsiddin** **2624**
■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2719**
Tashkent Kasimdzhanov Cup 2nd rapid ..
[Kitty Kat]

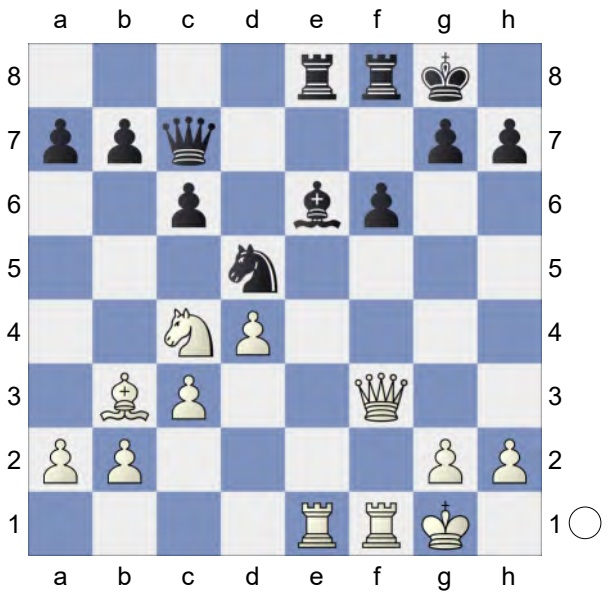
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.Ba4!** 8.Ba4 is the recent fashion. 8.La4 ist aktuell in Mode. **8...c6 9.Na3 d6 10.Nc4 Bc7**

(Diagram)



Hoping for ...b7-b5. [#] Hoping for ...b5. **11.Bb3 Be6 12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 d5! 14.Bxc7 Qxc7 15.exd5 Nxd5** ...b7-b5 would now be deadly. Threatens to win with ...b5. **16.Qf3 0-0-0N**

[Vorgänger: 16...0-0 17.d4 Rae8 18.Rae1 f6 0.78/21 *(18...Nf6= -0.07/24* remains equal. *)*



19.Nd2 0.21/26 *(19.Qg3!± 0.78/21* And now Qg3xc7 would win. *Qxg3 20.hxg3)* 19...Bf7= 20.Ne4 Kh8 0.62/20 *(20...Re7= 0.25/24)* 21.Qg3± And now Qxc7 would win. Qd7 22.Nd6 Rxe1 23.Rxe1 1-0 Svidler,P (2694)-Nakamura,H (2736) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2021 (1. 12)]

17.Rae1 Rhe8 18.d4

[18.Nd2 keeps more tension. f6 19.Ne4 Kb8 20.d4]

18...Kb8 19.Ne5 f6 20.Nd3 Re7 21.Nc5 Bc8 22.Rxe7 Qxe7 23.Qf2 Re8 The position is equal. **24.Bxd5 cxd5 25.Nd3 Qd6 26.Re1 Rxe1+** The position is equal. **27.Qxe1=** Endgame. KQB-KQN **27...Kc7 28.Qe8 Qe6** Wards off Qe8-g8 Inhibits Qg8. **29.Qxe6 Bxe6 30.Kf2 g5 31.Ke3 Kd6 32.b3 b6 33.g3 h6** An interesting draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless) An interesting draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)

½-½

152 **C65**

□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2839**

■ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2716**

Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.18)

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.c3 h6 8.Nbd2N White has an edge.

[8.d4 Bd6 9.Nbd2 *(9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Bf4 Ng6 11.Bxd6 cxd6 12.c4 0-0 13.Nc3 f5 14.Re1 fxe4 15.Rxe4 Nf4 16.Qd4 Nh3+ 17.Kf1 Bf5 18.Re3 Nf4 19.Rd1 Rf6 20.Kg1 Ng6 21.Nd2 Rf7 22.Nde4 Bxe4 23.Nxe4 Qh4*

1-0 Panov Botvinnik Attack (2779)-Gazi,M (2777) FIDE-Wch k.o. 2001 (4); *9.Be3 0-0 10.Nbd2 exd4 11.Nxd4 Ne5 12.f4 Ng4 13.Qe2 Nxe3 14.Qxe3 c5 15.N4f3 f5 16.Ne5 Bxe5 17.fxe5 Qe7 18.exf5 Bxf5 19.Rae1 Rad8 20.Rf2 b6 21.a3 a5 22.Ref1 Qe6 23.h3 Bg6* 0-1 Voelkl,S (2618)-Mu,K (2663) 4647 Hastings 1946 (2.4)) 9...exd4 10.Nxd4 0-0 11.f4 Bc5 12.N2f3 Re8 13.Qc2 Nf6 14.e5 Nd5 15.f5 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7]

8...0-0 9.Nc4 Re8 10.b4 Bd6 11.Be3 Nf8 12.Nfd2 Ng6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.a4!?N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant. **14...d5 15.Nb3 b6 16.a5 Rb8 17.Qc2 Be6 18.Rfb1 Re7 19.c4** -1.09/21

[19.f3∓ -0.32/21]

19...d4∓ 20.Bd2 f5 21.axb6 axb6 22.f3 Rf7 23.Rf1 Kh7 24.exf5 Bxf5 25.Be1 Qg5 26.Rd1 -1.65/20

[26.Bg3∓ -1.25/20 might work better.]

26...h5 -0.69/22

[26...Re8-+ -1.65/20 27.Bd2 Qf6]

27.Bd2∓ Qh4 28.Rde1 Ra8 29.Ra1 -1.64/24

[29.f4∓ -0.95/22]

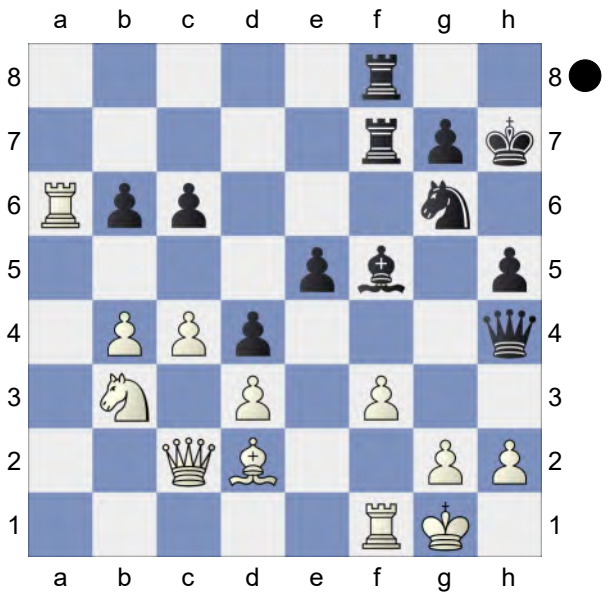
29...Raf8 -0.86/22

[29...Rxa1!-+ -1.64/24 30.Rxa1 Qf6]

30.Ra6? -2.58/21

[30.Rf2∓ -0.86/22]

(Diagram)



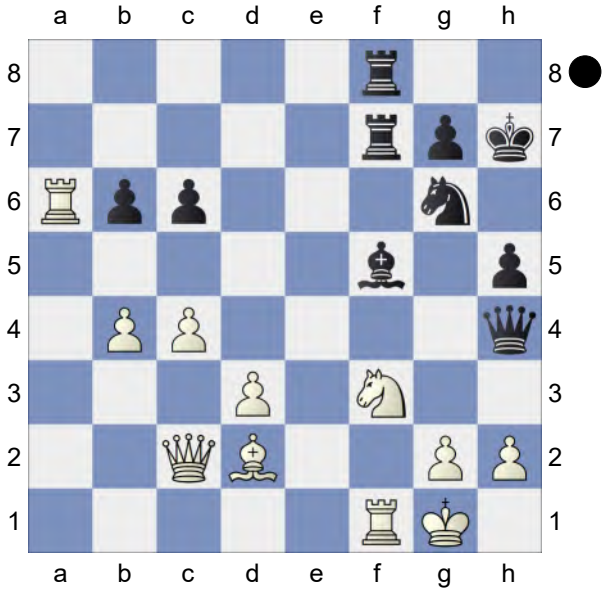
30...e4? -0.47/23 **31.Nxd4**

[31.Rxb6? exf3 *(31...exd3 32.Qc1=; 31...e3 32.Be1∓)* 32.g3 *(32.Rxf3? Ne5-+)* 32...Qh3-+]

31...exf3

[31...Bc8!? 32.Ra8□ *(32.Rxb6? exf3 33.Nxf3 Qd4+* Pin, Double Attack *34.Rf2 Rxf3-+)* 32...exd3 33.Qxd3 Rd7∓]

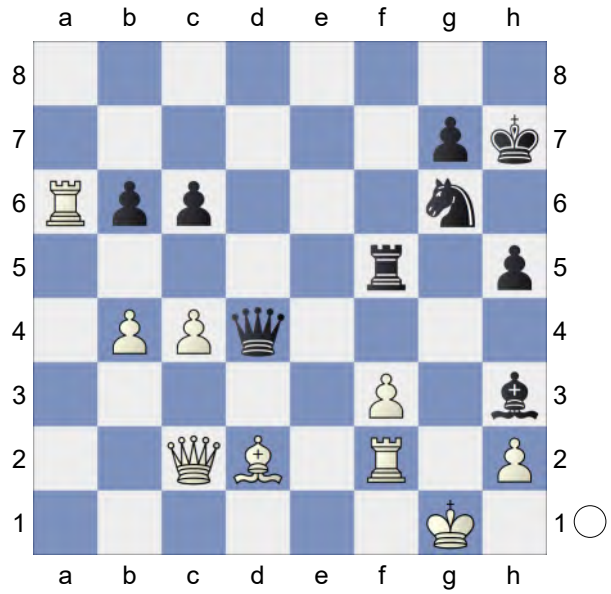
32.Nxf3



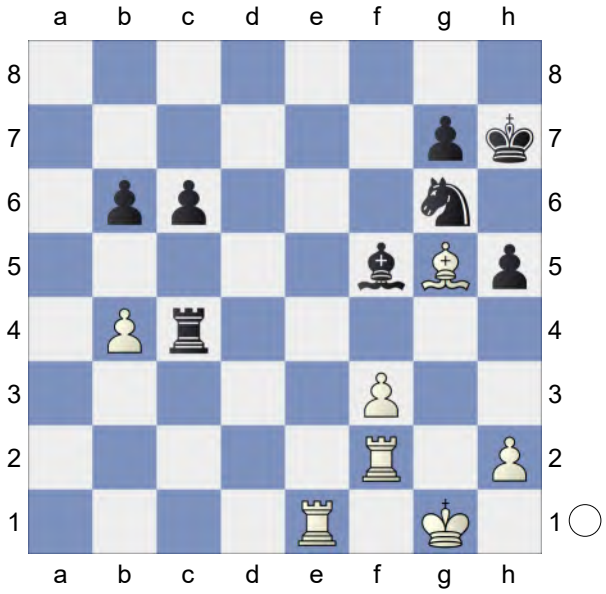
Bh3! Deflection **33.Rf2!**

[33.gxh3? Qd4+ 34.Kh1 Rxf3 35.Rxf3 Rxf3-+]

33...Rxf3 34.gxf3 Black should prevent Ra7!. **34...Rf5?** 2.04/23
[34...Bg4 35.f4 Ne5
A) 36.Be3!? Bh3 *(36...Nf3+ 37.Rxf3 Bxf3 38.d4+ Kg8 39.Qf2±)* 37.Bxb6 *(37.fxe5 Qg4+ 38.Rg2 Bxg2)* 37...Rxf4 38.Kh1±;
B) 36.Bc3]
[34...Bg4= 0.01/24]
35.d4!+-
[35.Rxb6? Qd4 36.Ra6 *(36.Rxc6? Ne5-+)* 36...Ne5-+ *(36...Rxf3? 37.Be1-+)*]
35...Qxd4



36.Ra3 0.81/21
[36.f4]
[36.Qe4 Rg5+]
[36.f4!+- 1.82/22 Rf7 *(36...Nh4? 37.Ra3+-)* 37.Ra3]
36...Rf7 1.69/20
[36...Re5!]
[36...Re5± 0.81/21 37.Qd3 Qxd3 38.Rxd3 Re6]
37.Re3 0.80/20
[37.Qe4 Qb2 38.Rc3 Re7±]
[37.f4+- 1.69/20 and White stays clearly on top. Qd7 38.Rg3]
37...Bf5± 38.Qc3 Qd8 39.Re1 0.22/20
[39.f4 0.01/19 39.Kh1 0.58]
[39.Kh1± 0.73/21]
39...Rd7!= 40.Qe3 -0.01/19
[40.Rg2± 0.40/22]
40...Rd4? 2.10/21
[40...Re7! 41.Qc3 and Rxe7 should not be overlooked *(41.Qg5? -15.49/26 41.Qc3 0.01 Rxe1+* ½-½ Saric,A (2510)-Lu,M (2398) New York Summer GM-A 2022 (5) *42.Bxe1 Qxg5+)* 41...Rd7 42.Qe3 0.01/27 *(42.Be3± 0.37/21)*]
[40...Re7!= -0.01/19 and Black has nothing to worry. 41.Qc3 Rd7]
41.Qg5+- Qxg5+ 42.Bxg5 Rxc4

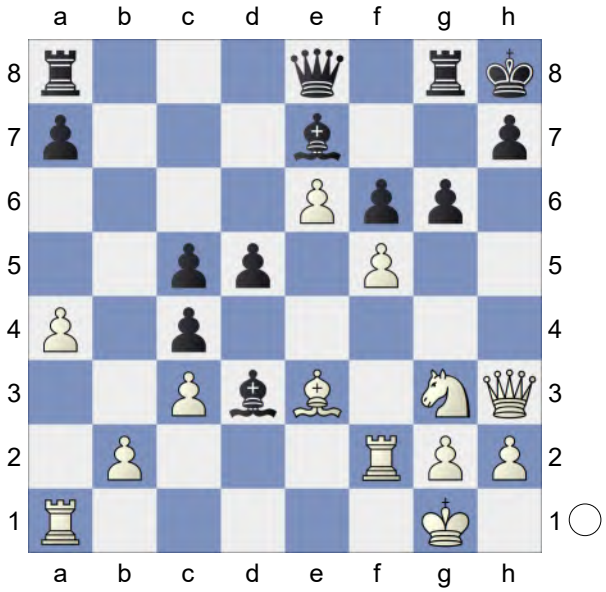


43.Rb2 b5 44.Kf2 c5 2.97/24
[44...Rd4± 1.55/20 45.h4 Nxh4]
45.bxc5 Rxc5 46.Rc1 Rd5 47.Rd2 Rxd2+ 48.Bxd2 KRB-KBN **48...Ne5 49.Rc7 b4 50.Rb7**
[Worse is 50.Bxb4 Nd3+ 51.Ke3 Nxb4∓]
50...Be6 51.Re7 White is clearly winning.
[Not 51.Bxb4 Nxf3 52.Rb5 *(52.Kxf3 Bd5+ 53.Kf2 Bxb7=)* 52...Nd4 53.Rxh5+ Kg6+-]
51...Nd3+ 52.Ke3 Vorgänger: **52...Bc4**

White used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) / Black=0.47 **53.Kd4**
[53.Kd4 Bb5 *(53...Nb2 54.Bxb4)* 54.Rb7 Ba6 55.Rb6]
1-0

153 **C67**
□ **Ma,Qun** **2608**
■ **Wang,Yue** **2677**
Shenzhen Nanshan (2.1) 17.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.dxe5 Nxb5 7.a4 Nbd4 8.Nxd4** White wants to play Nb1-c3. **8...d5 9.c3 Be7** The position is equal. **10.f4 0-0 11.Be3 f6 12.Nxc6 bxc6 13.Nd2 Ba6**
[13...fxe5 14.fxe5 Qe8 15.b4 Bf5 16.Nb3 Bd6 17.Nd4 Bd7 18.Nf3 Be7 19.h3 Qg6 20.Kh2 Bf5 21.Nd4 Bh4 22.Nxf5 Rxf5 23.Rxf5 Bg3+ 24.Kg1 Qxf5 25.Bd4 Bxe5 26.Qd2 Bd6 27.a5 a6 28.Qe3 ½-½ 4.♘f3 g6 5. ♘ bd2_45661 (2712)-Marosi,G (2739) (open) 45/127 1988 (9.3)]
14.Rf2N
[14.Rf3 fxe5 15.fxe5 Qd7 16.Nb3 Rxf3 17.Qxf3 Rf8 18.Qg3 Qf5 19.h3 Qc2 20.Bc5 Qxb3 21.Bxe7 Rf7 22.Bc5 Bc8 23.Qg5 h5 24.Qd8+ Kh7 25.Qxc8 Qxb2 26.Rf1 Rxf1+ 27.Kxf1 Qc1+ 28.Kf2 Qd2+ 1-0 Dubov,D (2708)-Bacrot,E (2653) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Feb Early blitz 2023 (10)]
14...Bd3 0.49/18
[14...fxe5= -0.01/17 15.fxe5 Qd7]
15.Nb3± Be4 0.99/20
[15...Bf5± 0.54/20 should be considered.]
16.Nd4↑ White has strong initiative.
16...Qd7 Repels Nd4-e6 **17.e6 Qe8 18.f5 c5 19.Ne2 c4 20.Ng3 Bd3 21.Qg4 Kh8 22.Nh5 g6 23.Ng3** 0.48/20
[23.fxg6± 1.27/20 Threatening mate with g6-g7+. Qxg6 24.Qh4]
23...Rg8 1.00/20
[23...c5!± 0.48/20]
24.Qh3 c5



25.Re1 0.40/18
[25.fxg6!± 0.80/19 Rxg6 26.Re1]
25...Rd8 26.Qh4 -0.24/20
[26.fxg6!± 0.52/18 Qxg6 27.Nf5 Bxf5 28.Rxf5]
26...gxf5= 27.Nxf5 -0.95/20
[27.Qh3!∓ -0.38/19]
27...Bxf5∓ 28.Rxf5 Rxg2+ Double Attack **29.Kh1** -1.70/21
[29.Kxg2∓ -0.82/21 Qg6+ 30.Rg5 fxg5 Discovered Attack 31.Qg3]
29...Qg6-+ 30.Qh5 Rxb2? 0.01/22
[30...Rg4-+ -1.65/20 31.Bd2 Re4 32.Rxe4 dxe4]
31.Rg1? -1.70/18
[31.Qf3= 0.01/22 and White has nothing to worry. Rg8 32.Rxd5

(32.Qxd5? Rxh2+ Remove Defender, Decoy *33.Kxh2 Qg3+ 34.Kh1 Qh4#; 32.Rg1 Qe8=)*]

31...Qxh5 32.Rxh5 Re2 33.Bh6 Rg8 -0.71/23 Inhibits Bh6-g7+.

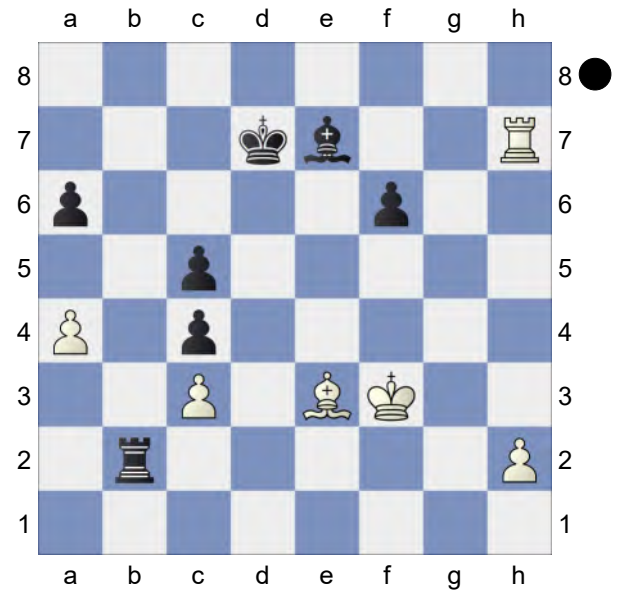
[33...Rxe6-+ -1.72/23 and Black stays clearly on top. 34.Rf5 Rg8 35.Rxd5 *(35.Rxg8+? Kxg8 36.Rxd5 Kf7-+)* 35...Rxg1+ 36.Kxg1 Kg8]

34.Rxd5∓ Rxe6 35.Rd7 a6 36.Rc7! Rxg1+ 37.Kxg1∓ Endgame KRB-KRB. Black is two pawns up. **37...Kg8 38.Kf2** Inhibits Re6-e2+. **38...Kf7 39.Be3 Ke8 40.Rc8+** -1.16/23

[40.Bxc5?! h5± *(40...Kd8 41.Rxe7 Rxe7 42.Bxe7+ Kxe7 43.Ke3-+)*]

[40.a5!∓ -0.64/22]

40...Kd7∓ 41.Rh8 Rb6 42.Rxh7 Rb2+ 43.Kf3



Ke6! 44.Rh4 Rc2 -0.29/25

[44...Bd6∓ -1.07/23 45.Bf4 *(45.Rxc4 Rc2∓)* 45...Rc2 46.Bxd6 Rxc3+ *(46...Kxd6 47.Rxc4 Kd5* Deflection *48.Rf4∓)* 47.Ke2 Kxd6]

45.Rxc4 -1.26/22

[45.Re4+= -0.29/25 remains equal. Kd7 46.Rxc4]

45...f5 -0.64/23

[Black should play 45...Rxh2∓ -1.26/22 Hoping for ...Rh2-h3+. 46.Re4+ Kf7]

46.a5? -3.10/23

[46.h4∓ -0.64/23]

46...Rxh2-+ 47.Bxc5? -4.61/25

[47.Bf2 -2.81/23]

47...Kd5 48.Bg1 aiming for Rc4-d4+.

48...Rh3+

[Weaker is 48...Kxc4 49.Bxh2 Bd8 *(49...Kxc3 50.Be5+ Kc4 51.Kf4=)* 50.Be5∓]

49.Kg2 Kxc4 50.Kxh3 Kxc3 KB-KB. Black is a pawn up. Black is clearly winning. **51.Kg3 Bd6+ 52.Kh4 Kd3 53.Kh3 Ke2 54.Bb6 f4** (→ ...f4-f3) **55.Kg4 f3** (→ ...f3-f2) **56.Kf5 Bb4** A wild game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/Black=0.31

0-1

154 **C67**

□ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2671**

■ **Tari,Aryan** **2637**

Waterloo Maplewood (7) 24.07.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4** -0.01/21

[6.Nxe5± 0.44/20 Be7 7.Bf1]

6...Be7= 7.Nc3 a6 is the new trend. ist der neue Trend. **8.Bf1** The position is equal. **8...e4** Deflection **9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re1 Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.g3!?N** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

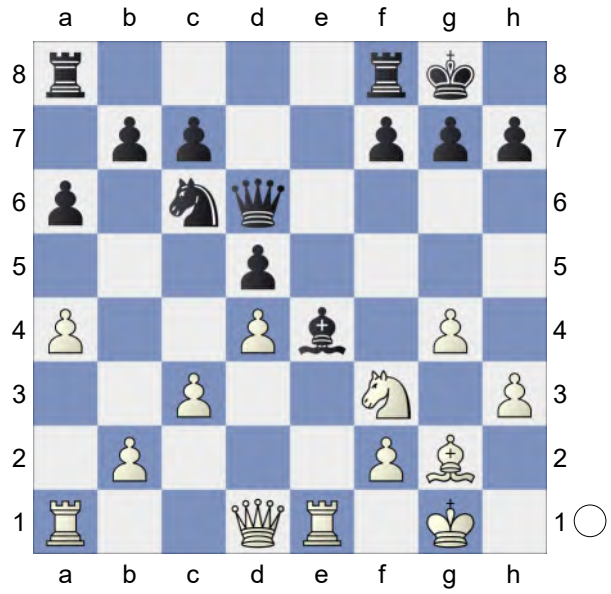
[13.c3 d4 14.d3 0-0 15.Be2 Bg6 16.Bf4 Re8 17.Bf1 Qd7 18.Qb3 Na5 19.Qa2 dxc3 20.bxc3 Bd6 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Qd5 Qf5 23.Qxf5 Bxf5 24.Be3 c5 25.Nd2 Rc8 26.g4

Bd7 27.Bg2 Kf8 ½-½ Andersen,M (2598)-Howell,D (2677) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (3.8)]
[13.Be2 0-0 14.d4 Re8 15.Ne5 Bxe2 16.Rxe2 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qd7 18.Qd3 b5 Chapter-6.a4!? lines 2024 19.Bf4 bxa4 20.Rd2 Qb5 21.Qd4 c6 22.Be3 Rab8 23.c3 a3 24.bxa3 Qa5 25.Rd3 Bf8 26.a4 Rb3 27.h4 Qc7 28.Rad1 Qxe5 29.Qa7 Rxc3 30.Rxc3 Qxc3 31.Rc1 Qd3 32.Rxc6 Qd1+ 33.Kh2 Qxa4 0-1 Bulmaga,I (2423)-Injac,T (2426) EU-Cup (Women) 27th 2023 (7.3)]

13...0-0 14.Bg2 Bf6 15.g4 Bg6 16.d4↑ Black is under pressure. **16...Be4 17.c3 Be7N**

[Vorgänger: 17...Qd6 18.b4 Rfe8 19.Ra2 Re6 20.Ng5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Bxg2 22.Kxg2 Rae8 23.Rae2 h6 ½-½ Abasov,N (2634)-Aditya,M (2505) Baku op 2023 (7)]

18.Bf4 Bd6 19.Bxd6 Qxd6



20.Ne5! Bxg2 21.Kxg2 Nxe5 0.52/22

[21...Rae8= 0.12/21]

22.dxe5±

[22.Rxe5 f6 23.Re3 f5=]

22...Qe6 23.f4 Rad8 24.Qd4 f5 25.exf6 Qxf6 26.f5 g6 27.fxg6 hxg6 28.Qxf6 Rxf6 Endgame KRR-KRR **29.Rad1 c6 30.Kg3 Rdf8** 1.48/24

[30...Kg7± 0.46/21]

31.Kh4!± Rf3 32.Re7 R8f7 33.Rde1 Kg7 34.Kg5 0.01/26

[34.Re8± 1.39/24]

34...Rxh3= 35.R1e6 Rh2! 36.Re8 Rf8! 37.R8e7+ Rf7 38.b4 Rh3! 39.Re8 Rf8 40.Rxg6+ Kf7 41.Ree6 Rxc3 42.Rgf6+ Kg8 43.Rh6 Against Rf8xf6 **43...Kf7 44.Rhf6+ Kg8 45.Re7 Rxf6 46.Kxf6** KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **46...Rf3+ 47.Kg6 Kf8 48.Rxb7 Ke8 49.Rc7** 0.01/23

[49.g5± 0.47/21]

49...Rf4 50.g5 Rxb4 51.a5 Rc4 0.40/24

[51...d4= 0.01/24]

52.Kf5 0.01/23

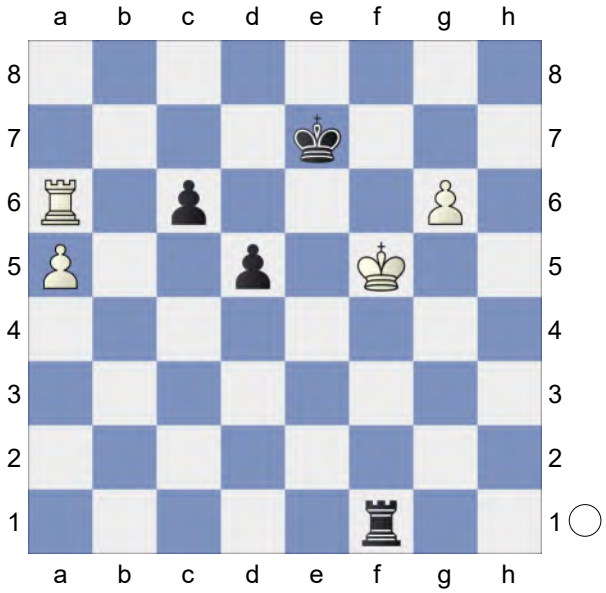
[52.Kf6± 0.40/24 deserves consideration.]

52...Kf8 0.70/24

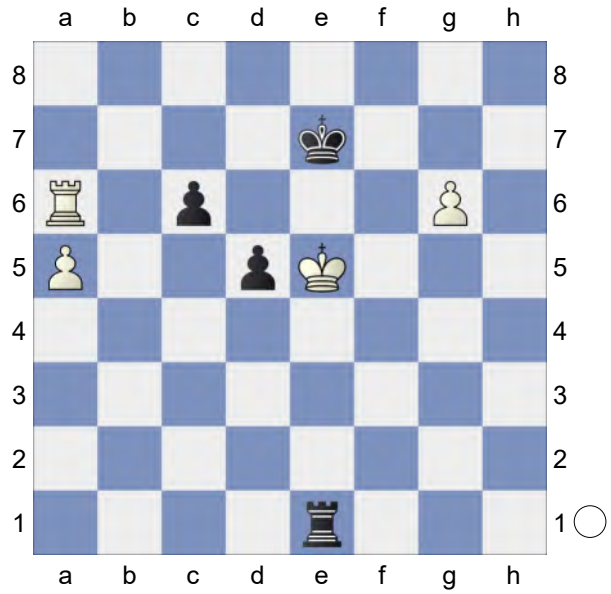
[52...Rc1= 0.01/23]

53.Ra7 Rc1 54.Rxa6 White is more active. **54...Ke7 55.g6 Rf1+** 1.12/24

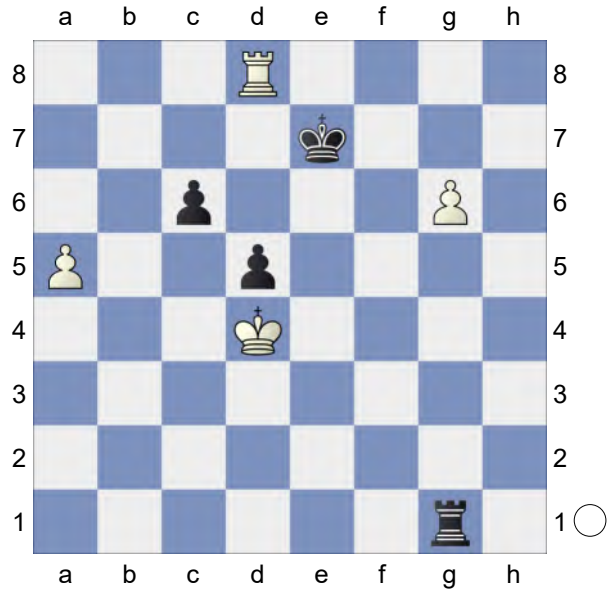
[55...Kf8± 0.65/25]



56.Ke5!± Re1+



57.Kd4! Kd6 Strongly threatening ... Re1-g1. **58.Ra8 Rg1?** 4.99/21
[58...c5+± 1.38/21 is more resistant. 59.Kc3 d4+ 60.Kc4 Rc1+ 61.Kd3 Rc3+ 62.Ke4 Re3+ 63.Kf5 Re5+ 64.Kf6 Re6+ 65.Kf7 Re7+ 66.Kf8 Re1]
59.Rd8+? 0.01/25
[Better is 59.a6+- 4.99/21]
59...Ke7 5.05/24
[59...Kc7= 0.01/25 60.Rg8 Kb7]

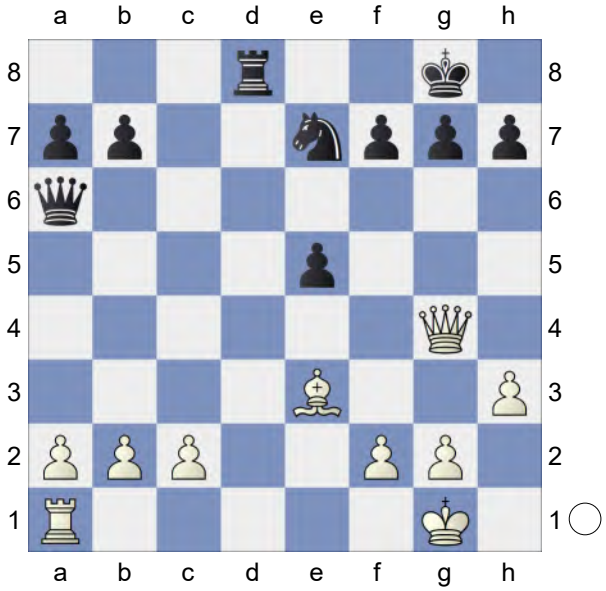


60.a6!+- Rxg6
[60...Kxd8 61.a7]
61.a7 2.36/28
[⌓61.Kc5 4.73/29]
61...Rg4+ 62.Kc5 Rc4+ 63.Kb6 Kxd8 64.a8Q+ KQ-KR
[64.a8B Kd7 65.Bb7 Rb4+ 66.Kc5 Rxb7 67.Kd4 Rb3 68.Ke5 Rf3 69.Kd4 Ke6 70.Kc5 Rf4 71.Kxc6 d4 72.Kb7 d3 73.Kb6 d2 74.Kc6 d1Q *(74...d1B* is a self mate. *75.Kc5 Ba4 76.Kb6 Kd5 77.Kc7 Bc6 78.Kc8 Kd6 79.Kb8 Rf7 80.Kc8 Rf8#)* 75.Kc5 Qb3 76.Kc6 Rc4#]
64...Kd7 65.Qf8 Ke6 66.Qf2 Ke5 67.Qe3+ Kf5 68.Kc7 Kg4 69.Qf2 Kg5 70.Qf3 Kg6 71.Kd7 Kg5 72.Kd6 Kg6 73.Ke7 And now Qf3-f6+ would win.
73...Re4+ 74.Kf8 Kg5 (→ ...Re4-f4+)
75.Kg8 Rc4 76.Kg7 Rg4? 5.55/28
[76...Rf4 2.59/27 77.Qg2+ Rg4 78.Qd2+ Kf5+ 79.Kf7 Rf4 80.Qd3+ Kg4+ 81.Kg6 Rc4]
77.Qf6+ Kh5+ 78.Kf7 Rc4 79.Qg6+ 2.65/5
[⌓79.Qf5+ 5.55/30 Kh4 80.Qg6]
79...Kh4 80.Qg2 Re4 81.Kf6 White wants to mate with Kf6-f5.
81...Re8 82.Qg5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.32
1-0

155	**C65**
☐ **Caruana,Fabiano**	**2786**
■ **Niemann,Hans Moke**	**2667**
FIDE Grand Swiss (2)	26.10.2023
[Kitty Kat]	

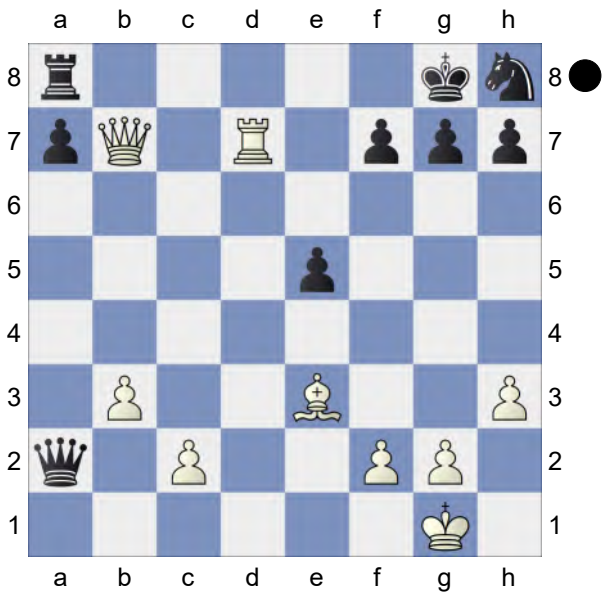
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.h3 Nd7 7.Nc3!**

outshines the older 7.0-0. erfolgreicher als das alte 7.0-0. **7...0-0 8.Be3** The position is equal. **8...Bd6 9.0-0**
[9.Ne2 Re8 10.g4 Nc5 11.Ng3 Ne6 12.Nf5 c5 13.h4 a5 14.h5 Ra6 15.Qd2 Nd4 16.Rh3 Bf8 17.0-0-0 Be6 18.Kb1 f6 19.c3 Nxf3 20.Rxf3 c4 21.Qc2 cxd3 22.Rxd3 Qc8 23.g5 fxg5 Deslandes,P (2799)-Buchicchio,G (2782) Malmoe 45/566 2017 CBM 92_01 [Goldenberg; INF43/(586)] 1-0 (39) 24.Bxg5 Bf7 25.h6 gxh6 26.Bc1 Qe6 27.b3 a4 28.c4 axb3 29.axb3 Qc6 30.Rg3+ Kh8 31.Rd1 b5 32.c5 b4 33.Bb2 Bg6 34.Rd5 Qb5 35.Rg1 c6 36.Rxe5 Rxe5 37.Bxe5+ Kg8 38.Bd4 Kf7 Caruana,F (2806)-Shankland,S (2709) Sinquefield Cup, Saint Louis 2021 [Richard Palliser] 1-0 (39)]
9...Re8 10.Nd2 Nf8 11.Nc4N
[11.Ne2 Ne6 12.Kh1 c5 13.a4 Nf4 14.Ng1 Be6 15.b3 f6 16.Nc4 Bf8 17.Bd2 Qd7 18.Kh2 Rad8 19.Qf3 Qf7 20.g3 Ng6 21.Ne3 Ne7 22.Ne2 Nc6 23.Nc3 Nd4 24.Qg2 Qh5 25.f3 g6 Salinas Herrera,P (2468)-Kovalev,V (2603) Chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (94) 26.Rad1 Bh6 27.Ned5 Bg7 28.Nxc7 Nxc2 29.Nxe8 Rxe8 30.Nb5 Rd8 31.Rc1 Bxb3 32.Qe2 a6 33.Ba5 Rd7 34.Nc7 Nd4 35.Qf2 Nc6 36.g4 Qh6 37.Bd2 g5 38.Na8 Bf8 39.Rc3 Be6 40.Nb6 Rd8 4.♘c3 ♘d4 5.♗d3_39215 (2468)-Kumari,P (2603) Russia 2023 Inf33 [John Watson] 1-0 (94)]
11...Ng6 12.d4!?N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[Vorgänger: 12.Ne2 a5 13.b3 a4 14.Nxd6 cxd6 15.f4 -0.32/20 *(15.d4= 0.01/17 was preferrable.)* 15...exf4∓ 16.Nxf4 d5 17.Nxg6 hxg6 18.Qf3 ½-½ Anand,V (2770)-Aronian,L (2792) Leuven GCT blitz 2016 (8)]
12...Be6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.d5 cxd5 15.Nxd5 Qd7 16.Qd3 Bxd5 17.Qxd5 Ne7 18.Qd3 d5 19.exd5 Qxd5 20.Rfd1 Red8 21.Qe2 Qa5 22.Qg4 Qa6 1.27/21
[22...Qc7⩲ 0.42/20]
23.Rxd8+⩲ Rxd8



24.Rd1! Ra8 2.57/22 This costs Black the game.
[24...Qa5⩲ 1.19/21]
25.Rd7+- Ng6 26.Qf3→ White attacks with force. **26...Qxa2 27.b3**
[Less strong is 27.Rxb7 Qe6 28.Qe4 *(28.Rxa7 Rxa7 29.Bxa7 h6±; 28.Rxf7? e4-+)* 28...Rc8 29.Rxa7 h6⩲]
[Resist 27.Qxb7 Re8 28.b3 *(28.Qxa7 Qxa7 29.Rxa7 Rb8+-)* 28...e4 29.Rxf7 *(29.Qxa7 Qxc2 30.Rxf7 Ne7⩲)* 29...Qa1+ 30.Kh2 Qe5+ 31.g3 Ne7+-]
27...Nh8
[27...Rf8? 28.Bc5 Qa1+ 29.Kh2+-]
28.Qxb7

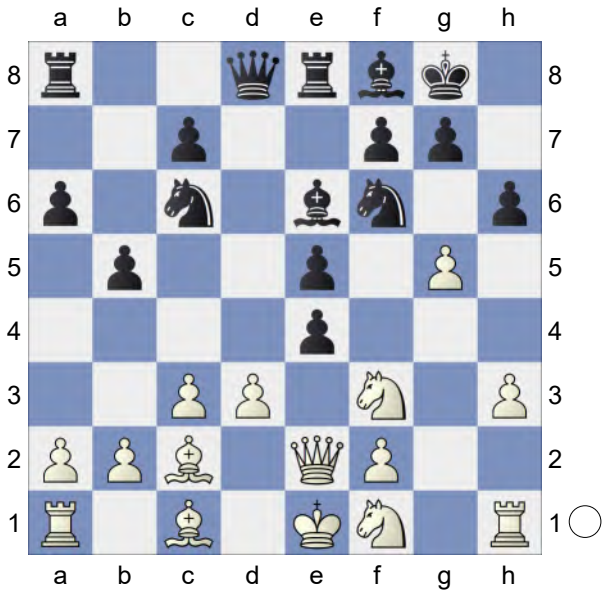
(Diagram)



Re8 29.Qc6 h6 30.Rxa7 Qb1+ 31.Kh2 Rf8 32.Qc4 Rd8 33.b4 aiming for b5. **33...Rb8** Against b5 **34.c3 Rd8 35.Qa2 Qe4** 6.97/22
[35...Qxa2 3.79/20 36.Rxa2 Rb8]
36.b5 White is clearly winning. **36...Kh7 37.b6 f5 38.Qa4 Qb1** 19.18/23
[⌓38...Qxa4 4.92/21 39.Rxa4 f4]
39.Qh4 Threatening mate with Qxh6+. **39...Rd6 40.Qe7 Rg6 41.Qxe5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.37
1-0

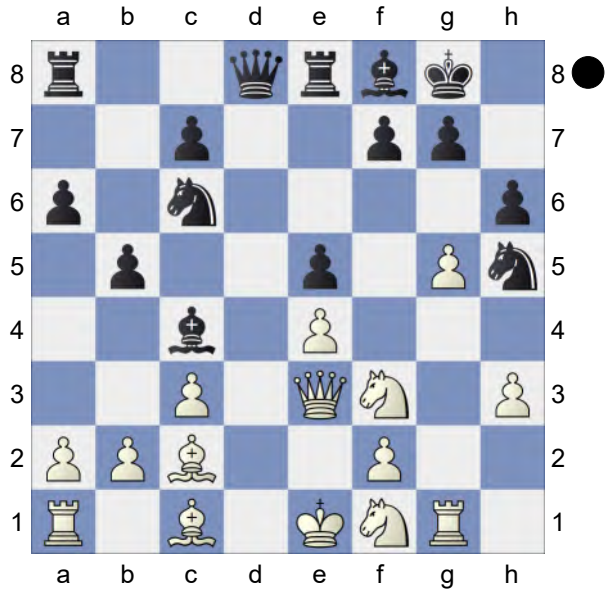
156 **C65**
□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2603**
■ **Murzin,Volodar** **2664**
Wch Blitz New York (11) 30.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Qe2 Bd6 5.c3 0-0 6.d3 a6!?** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **7.Ba4 Re8 8.Nbd2** The position is equal. **8...Bf8 9.Nf1** -0.43/20
[9.Bc2= -0.05/18]
9...h6 -0.04/21
[9...b5∓ -0.43/20 10.Bd1 d5]
10.h3 -0.49/19
[10.g4= -0.04/21]
10...d5N
[10...b5 11.Bc2 d5 12.Ng3 Be6 13.Nh2 Ne7 14.Nh5 Ng6 15.Nxf6+ Qxf6 16.Ng4 Qd8 1-0 Bischoff,K (2559)-Hansen,S (2551) Bundesliga 0405 2004 (13.3) 17.g3 Qd7 18.Qf3 Rad8 19.0-0 c6 20.Re1 Bc5 21.b4 Bb6 22.a4 d4 23.axb5 axb5 24.Bd2 Ra8 25.Rxa8 Rxa8 26.cxd4 Bxd4 27.Ne3 Ra2 28.Rc1 Ne7 29.g4 g6 30.Qf6 Kh7 31.Nf5 Nxf5 0-1 Bischoff, K (2495)-Hansen,C (2565) Hamburg SKA Hamburgo 1991 32.gxf5 Bxf5 33.exf5 g5 34.Be3 Bxe3 35.fxe3 Qd5 36.d4 Kg8 37.Qxe5 Qc4 1-0 Bischoff,K (2559)-Hansen,S (2551) Bundesliga 0405 2004 (13.3)]
11.g4 b5 12.Bc2 Be6 0.01/18
[12...d4∓ -0.49/18]
13.g5 dxe4



Deflection **14.dxe4 Bc4 15.Qe3** -1.27/21

[15.Qd2!= 0.02/20 hxg5 16.Rg1]
15...Nh5∓ Black has more active pieces. The white rooks are passive. **16.Rg1**



Nf4! Threatens to win with ...g7-g6.
17.gxh6 g6
[17...Nxh3? loses. 18.hxg7+-]
18.Nxe5? -4.32/20 Now White is beyond hope. **18...Nd5 19.Nxc6**
[19.h7+ Kxh7 20.Qg3 Nxe5]
19...Nxe3 20.Bxe3 Qf6 21.Nd4 c5→ Black attacks with force. **22.Nb3** -4.30/19
[22.Bg5 -2.15/19 Qd6 23.Nf3]
22...b4 23.Bg5? -6.06/19
[23.Nh2 -3.10/19]
23...Qf3-+ Black is clearly winning.
24.Ng3 Against Qf3-e2+ **24...bxc3 25.Rb1 Bd3 26.Rc1** Weighted Error Value: White=1.29/Black=0.65
0-1

157 **C77**
□ **Yu,Yangyi** **2724**
■ **Jumabayev,Rinat** **2573**
Wch Blitz New York (1) 30.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C77: Ruy Lopez: 3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6, unusual lines **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Ba4 a6N**
[5...0-0 6.0-0 d6 *(6...Re8 7.c3 d5 8.Nbd2 h6 9.Re1 dxe4 10.dxe4 a5 11.Qe2 Bd7 12.Nf1 Rb8 13.Ng3 Bd6 14.Bb5 Ne7 15.Nh4 Bxb5 16.Qxb5 Qd7 17.Qxd7 Nxd7 18.Nhf5 Nxf5 19.Nxf5 Bc5 20.Kf1 h5 21.Rd1* ½-½ Abdusattorov,N (2727)-So,W (2752) CCT Finals KO 2023 (1.12) *)* 7.c3
A) 7...Bb6 8.Nbd2 Ne7 9.Nc4 Ng6 10.h3 *(10.Bc2 Re8 11.Re1 c6 12.Nxb6 axb6 13.d4 Qc7 14.h3 h6 15.Be3 Bd7 16.a4 c5 17.Nd2 b5 18.dxc5 dxc5 19.axb5 Bxb5 20.Qf3 Rxa1 21.Rxa1 Nf4 22.Re1 b6 23.Bb3 Bc6 24.Bc2 Bb5* Chapter Become An Optimize-Firouzja,A*)* 10...h6 11.Bc2 Be6 12.Nxb6 axb6 13.d4 b5 14.Be3 c6 15.Re1 Qc7 16.a3 Rad8 17.Qd2 Rfe8 18.Rad1 Qe7 19.Qc1 Nh5 20.dxe5 dxe5 21.Rxd8 Rxd8 22.Rd1 1-0 Carlsen,M (2835)-Andreikin,D (2719) World Rapid 2018 (14.1);
B) 7...h6 8.Nbd2 a6 9.h3 b5 10.Bb3 Bb6 11.Re1 Be6 12.Nf1 d5 13.exd5 Nxd5 14.Ng3 Re8 15.Ne4 Nf6 16.Bxe6 Rxe6 17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Nxf6+ Qxf6 19.Rxe3 Ne7 20.d4 e4 21.Nd2 Qg6 22.Qg4 0-1 Esipenko,A (2677)-Nakamura,H (2802) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Sep Late blitz 2024 (7);

C) 7...Ne7 8.Bc2 Ng6 9.d4 Bb6 10.Be3 c6 11.Re1 Re8 12.h3 exd4 13.Bxd4 Nd7 14.a4 Nde5 15.Nbd2 Be6 16.b4 a5 17.Rb1 axb4 18.Bxb6 Qxb6 19.cxb4 Rad8 20.a5 ½-½ Yu,Y (2729)-Giri, A (2768) Chessable Masters Div 2 Lose rapid 2023 (5.2)]

6.c3 b5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.Bg5 h6 9.Bh4 Be7 The position is equal. **10.Nbd2 d6 11.0-0 Rb8 12.Re1 Nh5 13.Bg3 Nxg3 14.hxg3 Na5 15.Bc2 c5 16.Nf1 g6 17.Ne3**

[17.Qd2 is interesting. Kg7 18.b4 Nc6 19.Bb3]

17...Be6 0.34/19

[17...Nc6= -0.07/17 feels stronger.]

18.d4 -0.30/19

[18.b4± 0.34/19 Nc6 19.Bb3]

18...cxd4 19.cxd4 Rc8 20.Bb3 Nxb3 21.axb3 a5 0.69/19

[21...Ra8= 0.12/19]

22.dxe5 -0.01/21

[Better is 22.Qd2± 0.69/19]

22...dxe5= ...Be7-b4 is the strong threat.

23.Nd5 Bb4 24.Re3 Bxd5

[24...Rc5 simplifies 25.Nxe5 Bxd5 26.exd5 Rxd5 27.Rd3 Rxd3 28.Nxd3 Be7]

25.exd5 Qf6 0.36/20

[25...f6= -0.01/20]

26.Nxe5 -0.28/21

[26.Rxe5± 0.36/20 Rc5 27.Qd4]

26...Bc5 0.70/21

[26...Rfd8!= -0.28/21]

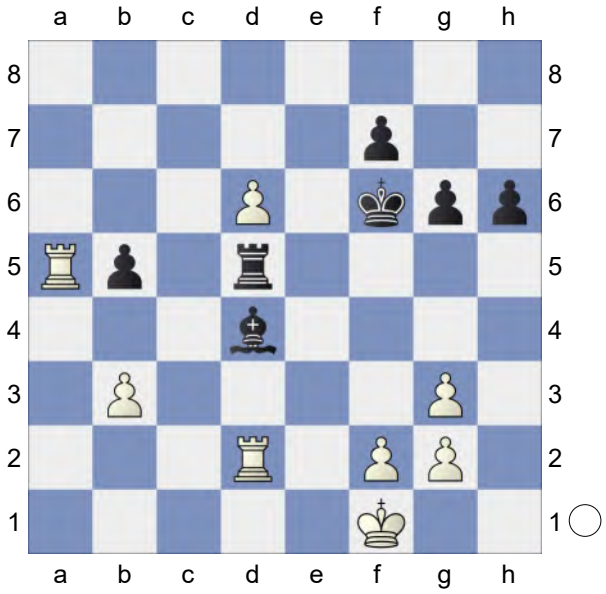
27.Nd7↑ White has the initiative.

27...Qxb2 4.46/23 This costs Black the game.

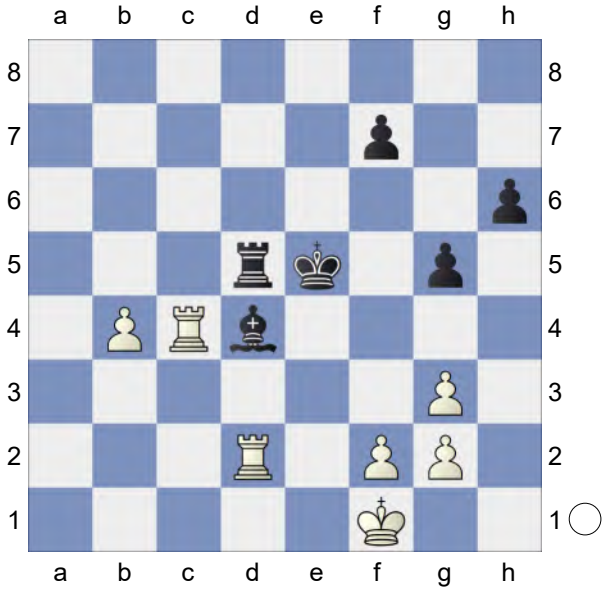
[Black should play 27...Qd6± 0.69/22 28.Nxc5 *(28.Nxf8 Bxe3 29.fxe3 Rxf8±)* 28...Rxc5]

28.Re2+- White is clearly winning.

28...Qd4 29.Nxf8 Kxf8 30.Qxd4 Bxd4 31.Rxa5 Endgame KRR-KRB **31...Rc5 32.d6 Rd5 33.Rd2 Kg7 34.Kf1 Kf6**



35.d7! Deflection **35...Rxd7 36.Rxb5 Rd6 37.Rb4 Ke5 38.Rc4 g5 39.b4 Rd5**



40.f4+! gxf4

[40...Ke4 41.b5]

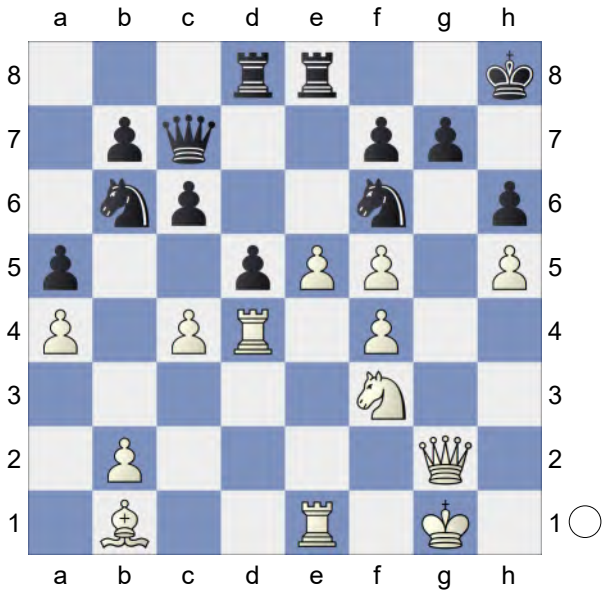
41.gxf4+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.56

1-0

158 **C65**
□ **Komododragon** **3569**
■ **Koivisto** **3493**
TCEC 24 Premier 2023 (24.2) 24.03.2023
[Kitty Kat]

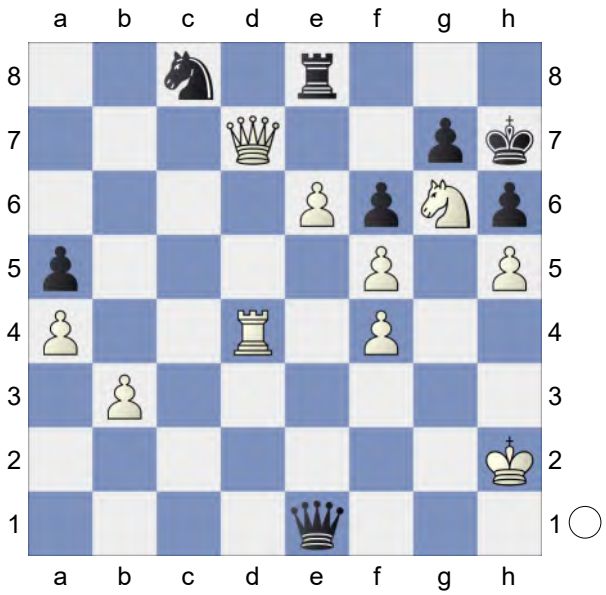
C66: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz Defence **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 0-0 7.c3 Nd7** 0.66/20
[7...a6= 0.18/20 8.Ba4 Re8]
8.d4± White is slightly better. **8...Bf6 9.Be3 Ne7 10.Nbd2** White is much more active. The black rooks are passive. **10...Ng6 11.a4 a5N 12.g3 c6 13.Be2 Be7 14.h4 exd4 15.Nxd4 Nf6 16.f4 Re8 17.h5 Nf8 18.g4 h6 19.Nf5 Bxf5 20.gxf5 N8d7 21.Bf1 Qc7 22.Qf3 Bf8** 1.37/22
[⌓22...Kh8 0.96/21]
23.Bd4± Rab8 24.c4 Be7 1.70/21
[24...b6± 1.06/20]
25.Qg2+- Rbd8 26.Rad1 Kh8
[26...Nxh5 27.Be2 Nhf6 *(27...Nxf4 28.Qxg7#)* 28.Kh1±]
27.Nf3! Bf8 1.83/21
[27...Rg8± 1.28/20]
28.Bd3 d5 29.e5 Bc5 2.52/21
[⌓29...Bb4 1.99/24]
30.Bb1!
[30.exf6 Bxd4+ 31.Nxd4 Rxe1+ 32.Rxe1 Nxf6±]
[30.Bxc5?! Nxc5 31.exf6 gxf6 32.Rxe8+ Rxe8±]
30...Bxd4+ 31.Rxd4 Nb6

(Diagram)



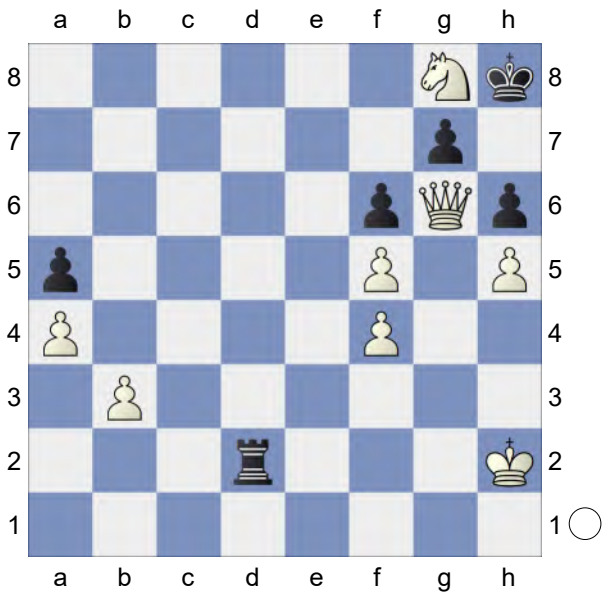
32.cxd5
[32.exf6 gxf6 33.Rxe8+ Rxe8±]
32...Nfxd5 33.Kh2 Rg8 34.Qc2 f6 35.Nh4 Ne3 2.84/24
[35...c5± 1.57/19]
36.Qe4
[36.Rxe3 Rxd4 37.Ng6+ Kh7-+]
[36.Ng6+ Kh7 37.Qe4 *(37.Rxe3 Rxd4 38.Ba2 Nd5∓)* 37...Rxd4 38.Qxd4 Ned5±]
36...Rxd4 37.Qxd4 Ned5 38.Bc2
[38.Ng6+ Kh7 39.exf6 gxf6±]
38...Kh7 39.Ng6 Rd8 40.Qg1 Nc8 41.Re2 Re8 42.Qg3 Qf7? 3.74/21
[42...Qd8 2.23/22 43.Rg2 Rg8]
43.Rg2 Ncb6 3.95/24
[43...Kg8 2.78/22 is a better defense. 44.Qf3 Rd8]
44.Bb3 Kg8
[44...fxe5 45.fxe5 c5 *(45...Qxf5? 46.Bc2+-)* 46.Qf3+-]
45.Qf2 Nc8 46.Bxd5 cxd5 47.Qf3 Nb6? 6.62/26
[47...Kh7 3.99/20 48.e6 Qc7 49.Qxd5 Nb6 50.Qxa5 Qc6]
48.e6 Qc7 49.b3 d4 50.Qe4 Kh7 51.Rc2
[Less strong is 51.Qxd4 Rd8 52.Qe4

Nc8+-]
51...Qd6 52.Qxb7 d3 53.Rd2
[53.Rc7 Rg8 54.e7 Re8+-]
53...Nc8 54.Qd7 Qb4 55.Qxd3 Ne7 56.Qd7 Nc8 57.Rd4 Qe1

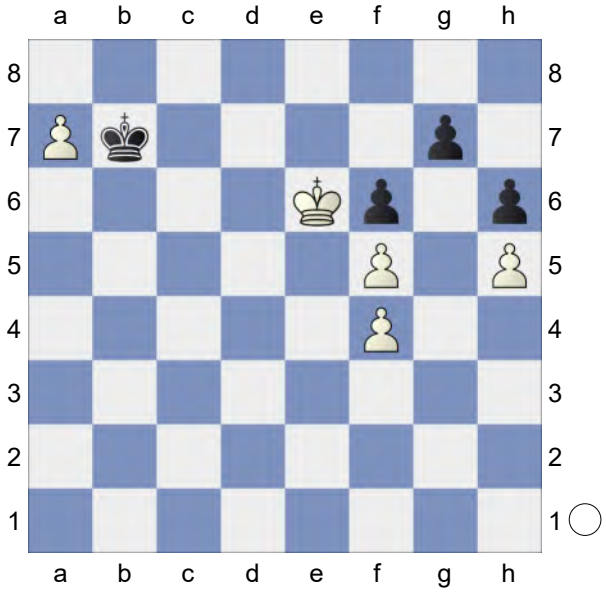


58.Rd2!
[58.Qxe8 Qf2+ 59.Kh1 Qf1+ 60.Kh2 Qf2+ 61.Kh3 Qf3+ 62.Kh2 *(62.Kh4 Qf2+ 63.Kg4 Qg2+ 64.Kh4 Qh2+ 65.Kg4 Qg2+ 66.Kh4 Qh2+ 67.Kg4 Qg2+=)* 62...Qf2+=]
58...Rg8 59.Qd3
[And not 59.e7 Nxe7 60.Rb2 *(60.Nxe7 Re8=)* 60...Nc8=]
59...Re8 60.Qe2 Qb1 61.Rd3 Qc1 62.Rd7 Rg8 63.Qg2 Qe1 64.e7 Nxe7 65.Rxe7 Qc1 66.Qd5 Rb8 67.Qh1 Qc8 68.Qg2 and Ne5! would now be decisive **68...Qd8 69.Rf7 Qg8 70.Rd7 Rd8 71.Ne7 Rxd7** Endgame KQR-KQN **72.Qg6+ Kh8 73.Nxg8 Rd2+**

(Diagram)



74.Qg2!! Rxg2+ 75.Kxg2 Kxg8 KP-KP. White is a pawn up. **76.Kf3 Kf7 77.Ke3 Ke7 78.Kd3 Kd6 79.Kd4 Kc6 80.Kc4** b4 would kill now. **80...Kc7 81.b4 axb4 82.Kxb4 Kb6 83.a5+ Kc6 84.a6** 32.98/29
[⌓84.Kc4 #20/36 Kd6 85.Kb5 Kd5 86.a6 Ke4 87.a7 Kxf5 88.a8Q *(88.a8B Kg4=)* 88...Kxf4 89.Qb7]
84...Kb6 85.Kc4 White mates. **85...Kc6 86.a7 Kb7 87.Kd5 Ka8 88.Ke6 Kb7**



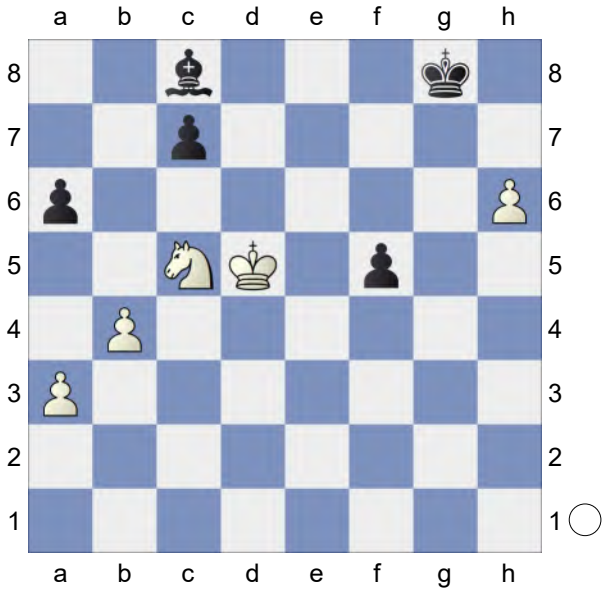
89.a8Q+! Kxa8 90.Kf7 Kb7 91.Kxg7 Kb8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.07

(flawless) /Black=0.46 **92.Kxf6 1-0**

159 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2835**
■ **Keymer,Vincent** **2690**
FIDE World Cup (4.3) 11.08.2023
[Kitty Kat]

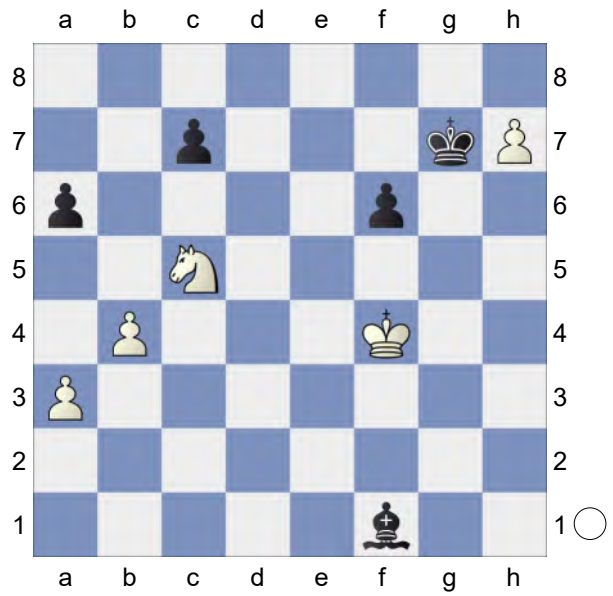
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.h3 h5**
[10...a5]
[10...Be7]
[10...Ne7]
[10...b6]
11.Ne2 Be7!?N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[11...Be6 12.Nf4 Bd5 13.Nxd5 cxd5 14.Bf4 c6]
12.Bg5 Be6 White has an edge. **13.Nf4 Bd5 14.Bxe7**
[14.Nxd5 cxd5 15.Rad1 c6]
14...Kxe7 15.Ng5
[15.Nxd5+ simplifies cxd5 16.Rad1 c6 17.Rd3]
15...Nd4! 16.Rad1
[16.Rad1!? Ne6□ 17.Ngxe6 Bxe6 18.Nxe6 Kxe6 19.f4=]
16...Ne6
[16...Nxc2? 3.51/23 16...Ne6 0.02 17.Nxd5+ cxd5 18.Rc1]
17.Ngxe6
[17.Nfxe6 fxe6]
17...Bxe6 Black is weak on the dark squares
[17...fxe6? 4.17/23 17...Bxe6 0.01 18.Ng6+]
18.h4 a5 19.a3
[19.a4 -0.37/21 19.a3 -0.01]
19...a4 20.Rfe1 g6 21.f3 Ra5 22.c3 Rb5 23.Re2 Ra8 24.Rd4 Raa5
[24...Ra6]
25.Kf2 Rxe5 26.Rxe5 Rxe5 27.Rxa4= Endgame KRB-KRN **27...Rb5 28.b4 c5 29.Ra7 cxb4 30.cxb4 Kd7**
[30...Bc4 31.Ke3 Kd6 32.Kd4 *(32.Ra8 c5 33.Rc8 b6 34.Kd2 Kd7)* 32...Rf5 33.g3 Bf1 34.Rxb7? -2.20/26 *(34.Ke3 Re5+ 35.Kf2 Ba6* and ...Re8 would now be decisive *36.a4 c6 37.Ra8 Ke7; 34.Ra8=* -0.01/29 and White has nothing to worry. *)* 34...g5-+ 35.hxg5 h4!]
31.Ne2 Rb6
[31...Kc8 32.Nc3 Rb6 33.Ra8+ Kd7 34.Ne4]
32.Ke3 Bc4 33.Nd4 Dodges Re6+ **33...Kd6** 0.52/30
[33...Rf6= 0.01/28]
34.Ra5!±
[34.g4 0.01/26 34.Ra5 0.43]
34...Ra6
[34...Be6 35.Kf4 Kd7 36.Rb5 *(36.Kg5 Rd6; 36.g4* 0.01/26 36.Rb5 0.39 *hxg4 37.fxg4 Rd6 38.Nxe6 Kxe6)* 36...Rd6 37.Nxe6 Rxe6 38.a4 0.01/26 *(38.Rxb7 Ra6; 38.Rxb7±* 0.41/27 *Ra6 39.g4)* 38...b6 0.50/25 *(38...Re2!=* 0.01/26 *)*]
35.Rxa6+ bxa6 KB-KN
[35...Bxa6?? 5.48/32 35...bxa6 0.41 36.b5 *(36.g4?* 0.50/28 36.b5 5.54 *hxg4 37.fxg4)* 36...c5 37.bxa6 cxd4+ 38.Kd3 bxa6 39.Kxd4]
36.g4 hxg4
[36...Ke5 0.88/33 36...hxg4 0.28 37.gxh5 1.26/25 *(⌓37.f4+* 0.88/33 *Kf6 38.gxh5 gxh5 39.a4)* 37...gxh5± 38.f4+ Kd5? 5.52/33 *(38...Kf6±* 1.35/32 is tougher.*)* 39.Nf5+- Bb3 40.Ng7 Bd1]
37.fxg4 This costs Black the game.

37...Ke5? 4.29/26
[37...c5 38.bxc5+ Kxc5 39.h5 gxh5! 40.gxh5 f6 41.h6 0.78/19 *(41.Nf5± 0.35/30 is superior.)* 41...Bg8± 42.Ne6+ Kc4? 10.92/29 *(42...Kd6± 0.64/29 43.Nf4 a5)* 43.Nf8 5.06/29 *(⌓43.Nc7 10.92/29 Bh7 44.Ne8)* 43...Kb3 9.10/26 *(⌓43...Kd5 5.06/29 44.Kf4 Kd6)* 44.Kf4 Kxa3 45.Nd7! Bh7 46.Nxf6 Bg6 47.Kg5 Bb1 48.Nd7 a5 49.Nf8 a4 50.Ng6]
[37...c5= 0.18/28 38.Nf3 cxb4 39.axb4 Ke6]
38.Nc6+ Kf6
[38...Kd6? 7.03/29 38...Kf6 2.79 39.h5]
39.Kf4 Ke6? 7.35/28
[39...Bb5 40.Nd4 Bc4 4.14/32 *(⌓40...Ba4 2.76/29 41.g5+ Ke7)*]
[39...Bb5 2.58/30 40.Nd4 Bc4]
40.h5+- White is clearly winning.
40...gxh5 41.gxh5 Bd3
[41...f6 42.Nd8+ Ke7 43.h6 Bd3 *(43...Kf8 44.Kf5 Ke7 45.Ke4 Kf8 46.Kd4)*
A) 44.Ke3? 1.12/25 44.Nb7 7.93 Bf5
A1) 45.Nc6+ Kf7? 4.81/29 *(45...Kf8± 1.21/28 46.a4 Bd7)* 46.Kd4!+- Bg4 7.51/27 *(⌓46...Kf8 4.75/24 47.Kd5 Kf7)* 47.Ne7+- Be2 *(47...Be6 48.h7 Kg7 49.Ng6 Kxh7 50.Nf8+)* 48.Nd5 f5 *(48...c6 49.h7 Kg7 50.Nxf6)* 49.Nxc7;
A2) White should try 45.Nc6+± 1.10/31 Kf7 46.Kd4;
A3) 45.Nb7 0.52/24 45...Kf7!± 46.Nc5 Bc8 47.Kd4
A3a) 47...Kg6? 5.97/31 47...f5 0.92 48.Kd5! Black must now prevent Kc6. Kxh6 *(48...f5 49.Kc6! f4 50.Nd3! f3 51.Ne5+ Kxh6 52.Nxf3)* 49.Kc6 Bh3 50.Nxa6 f5 51.b5 f4 52.Nc5 Bf5 53.Kxc7 Bc2 54.Nd7! Kg5 55.Ne5! Kf5 56.b6 Kxe5 57.b7 f3 58.b8Q;
A3b) 47...c6 48.Ne4 Kg6 49.h7! Kxh7 50.Nxf6+ Kg7 51.Ne8+ Kf8 52.Nc7 Ke7 53.Kc5 Kd7 54.Kb6;
A3c) 47...f5 48.Kd5 Kg8



49.Kc6! f4;
B) 44.Nb7 Kf7 45.Nc5 Bf1 *(45...Bc4 46.h7 Kg7 47.Kf5)* 46.h7 Kg7

(Diagram)



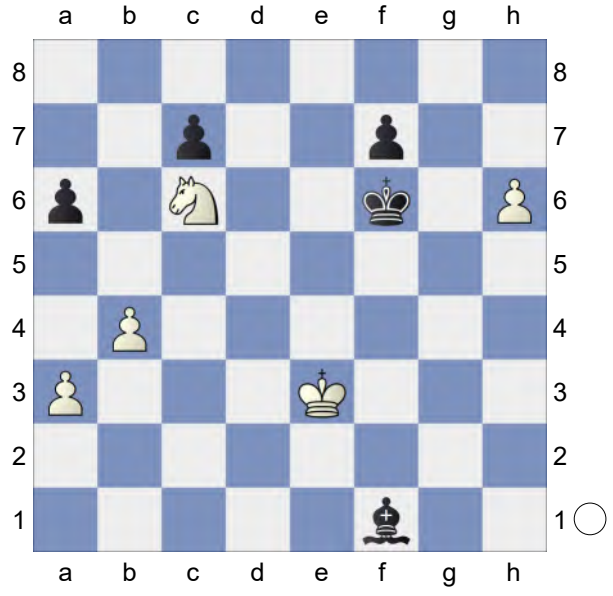
47.Ne6+! Kxh7 48.Kf5!]

42.Ke3 Bf1

[42...Bc4 43.Kd4 Bb3 44.Nb8]

[42...Bb1 43.Nb8 1-0 Carlsen,M (2852)-Lazavik,D (2541) PRO League Prelim rapid 2023 (4.2)]

43.h6 Kf6



44.Ne5! Promotion **44...Bb5**

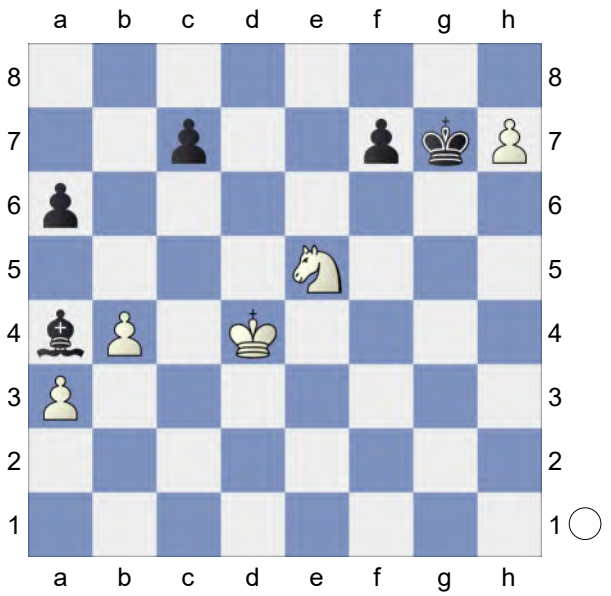
[44...Bg2 45.Kd4]

45.Kd4 Ba4

[45...Be8 46.Kc5 Kxe5 47.h7]

46.h7 Kg7

(Diagram)



47.Nxf7! Deflection, Promotion

47...Kxh7 48.Ng5+ Kg6 49.Ne6 c6N 50.Nc7 Kf6

[50...Bb5 51.Nxb5 cxb5 52.Kc5]

51.Nxa6 Ke7 52.Kc5 Kd7 53.Kb6 Threatening mate with Nc5+. **53...Bd1 54.Nc5+ Kd6**

[54...Kc8 Vorgänger: 55.Kxc6]

Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.76 **55.a4** An unexpected result.

½-½

160 **C65**

□ **Gurel,Ediz** **2624**

■ **L'Ami,Erwin** **2614**

Tata Steel-B 87th (8) 26.01.2025

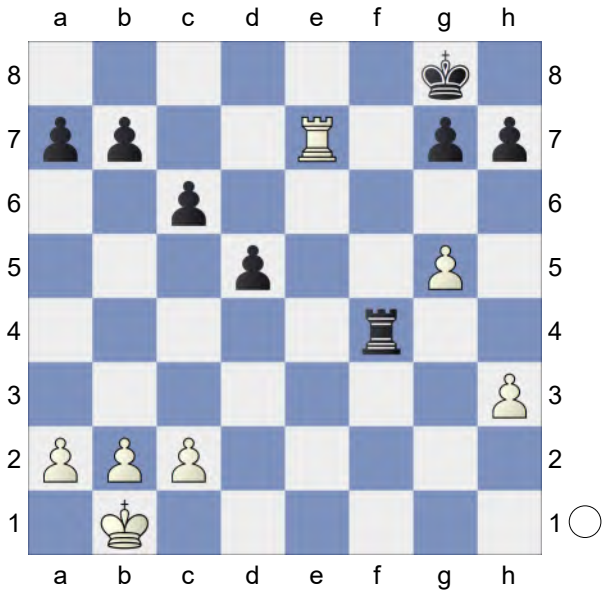
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.d4**

[5.c3 Bd7 6.Ba4 g6 7.0-0 Bg7 8.Re1 0-0 9.h3 h6 10.d4 Qe8 11.Bb3 Nh5 12.Na3 Kh7 13.Be3 f5 14.exf5 gxf5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Bc5 Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence (2585)-6.

♗a4 g6 7.0-0 (2615) Survey 2018]
5...exd4N
[5...Bd7 6.Nc3 a6 7.Bxc6 Bxc6 8.Qd3 Qe7 9.0-0 g6 10.a4 Bg7 11.dxe5 dxe5 12.b3 Nh5 13.Qc4 Nf4 14.Bxf4 exf4 15.Rad1 0-0 16.Nd5 Bxd5 17.exd5 Qd6 18.Ng5 Qe5 19.Nf3 Qd6 20.Ng5 ½-½ Nijboer,F (2584)-McShane,L (2664) II 111/(145) 2011]
6.Nxd4 Bd7 7.Nc3 Nxd4 8.Bxd7+ White is slightly better. **8...Qxd7 9.Qxd4 Be7 10.Bf4 Qg4 11.Be3 c6 12.h3 Qe6 13.0-0-0 0-0 14.g4 Nd7** 0.52/18
[14...b5= 0.15/18]
15.f4± Nb6 0.83/17
[15...b5± 0.47/17 is superior.]
16.g5 0.08/20
[16.f5± 0.83/17 Qc4 17.a4]
16...f5= 17.Kb1 Qc4
[17...fxe4 is interesting. 18.Nxe4 Qc4 19.Rhe1 Qxd4 20.Bxd4 Rxf4 21.Nxd6 Bxd6 22.Bxb6 Bb4]
18.Rhe1
[18.Qxc4+ simplifies Nxc4 19.Bc1 fxe4 20.b3]
18...fxe4 19.Qxe4 Qxe4 20.Nxe4 d5
[20...Nd5!?]
21.Nc5 Bxc5 22.Bxc5 Rf7 23.Re2 Nd7 24.Bd6 Rd1-e1 would now be deadly. **24...Nf8 25.Rde1** -0.01/20 White is much more active.
[White should play 25.Rf1!± 0.68/20]
25...Rd8 The position is equal. **26.Be7 Re8 27.Bd6 Rd8 28.Be7 Rd7 29.Bxf8 Rxf8 30.Re7 Rxe7 31.Rxe7 Rxf4**

(Diagram)

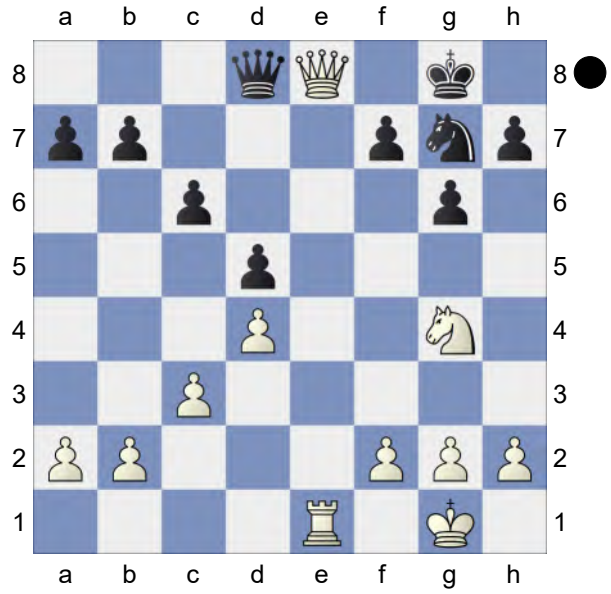


(→ ...Rf4-f1+). KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **32.b3 Rf7 33.Re8+ Rf8 34.Re7 Rf7**
[Don't play 34...Rf1+ 35.Kb2∓]
35.Re8+ Rf8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.10 (very precise)
½-½

161 **C67**
□ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2750**
■ **Grischuk,A.** **2736**
19th Moscow Stars Final rapid (1.2)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 c6 16.Qe2 Ng7 17.Re1 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nf3 Ng7 20.Be5** Hoping for Bxf6. **20...Ne6 21.Bxf6** The position is equal. **21...Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5 Ng7 25.Qxe8+**
[Don't go for 25.Nh6+? Kf8 26.Nxf7

Rxe5-+ *(26...Kxf7? 27.Qf4+ Nf5 28.Re5-+)*]

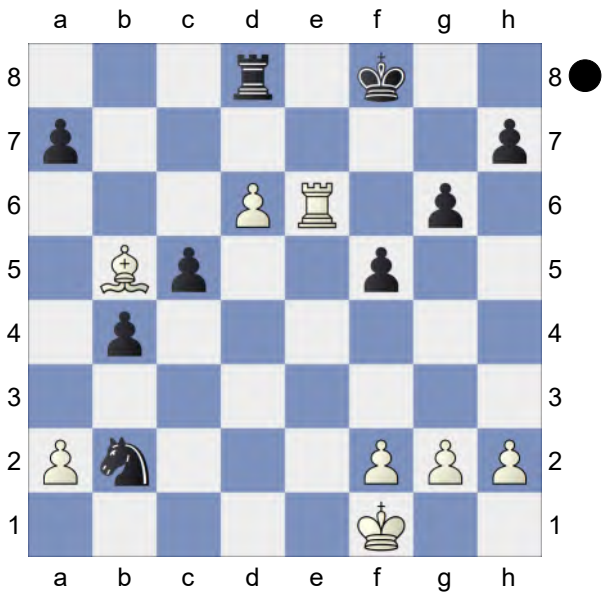


Decoy **25...Nxe8 26.Rxe8+** Remove Defender **26...Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxe8 Kxe8 29.f4 f5 30.h4N**
[30.Kf2 b5 31.b4 Kf7 32.h3 h6 33.h4 h5 Chapter Game8-Games Chapter Game8]
30...h5 31.b4 An uneventful encounter. Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.01 (flawless) **31...b5 ½-½**

162 **C67**
□ **Maurizzi,Marc Andria** **2581**
■ **Navara,David** **2677**
Djerba Festival Masters 2025 (5.1)
[Kitty Kat]

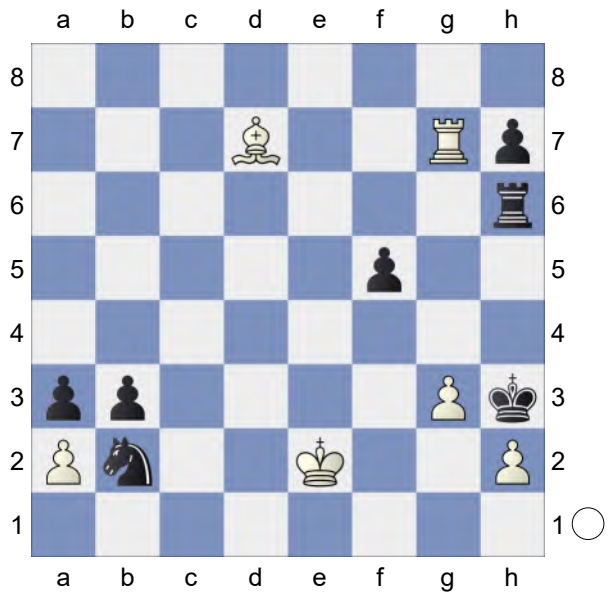
Slow 90min+30sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 LesEchecs.com: 'C67: Partie espagnole (défense berlinoise ouverte) ' **1.e4** 1:31:00 **e5** 5 **2.Nf3** 0 **Nc6** 5 **3.Bb5** 0 **Nf6** 5 **4.0-0** 0 **Nxe4** 5 **5.d4** 0 **Nd6** 9 **6.Ba4** 0 **exd4** 1:03 **7.c3** 0 **Be7** 2:05 **8.cxd4** 0 **b5** 53 **9.Bb3** 0 **0-0** 6:09 **10.Re1** 0 **Bb7** 3:47 **11.Nc3** 0 **Na5** 1:43 **12.Bc2** 0 **b4N** 8:38
[12...f5 13.Qe2 b4 14.Qxe7 bxc3 15.bxc3 Be4 16.Qxd8 Rfxd8 17.Bd1 Nb5 18.Bg5 Re8 19.Rc1 Bd5 20.Re5 c6 21.Rxf5 Nc4 22.Ba4 a6 23.Ne5 Ncd6 24.Rf4 h6 25.Bh4 g5 26.Rg4 Ne4 27.c4 0-1 Sulskis,S (2545)-Aleksandrov,A (2635) Dubai (7eme open) 2005 (3)]
13.Na4 0 **Bxf3** 17:11 **14.Qxf3** 0 **g6** 14 **15.Bh6** 0 **Re8** 39 **16.Nc5** 0 **Nc6** 0.87/18 6:38
[16...Rc8= 0.26/18 keeps the balance.]
17.Rad1± 0 White has more active pieces. **17...Bf8** 1:52 **18.Rxe8** 0 **Qxe8** 1:30 **19.Bxf8** 0 **Kxf8** 23 **20.Ba4** 0.85/20 0
[20.Kf1± 0.42/20 Kg7 21.Ba4]
20...Rd8 5:45 **21.d5** 0 **Ne5** 1:36 **22.Qf4** 0
[22.Qf6!? Kg8 23.b3+-]
22...Qe7 4:40 **23.Ne6+** 0 **dxe6** 5:18 **24.Qxe5** 0 **f6** 1:07
[24...Kg8 25.dxe6 Qxe6 26.Qxe6 fxe6 27.Rc1±]
25.Qxe6 0 **c5** 8:59 **26.Re1** 0 **Qxe6** 2:52 **27.Rxe6=** 0 Endgame. KRB-KRN **27...f5** 1:17 **28.Kf1** -0.64/20 0
[28.Bc6= -0.26/21]
28...Nc4 -0.03/22 4:06
[28...Ne4∓ -0.64/20]
29.Bb5 -1.12/21 0
[29.Bc6!= -0.03/22]
29...Nxb2∓ 2:17 **30.d6** 0

(Diagram)



Hoping for d7. **30...Kf7** 1:37 **31.Re7+** 0 **Kf6** 48 **32.Rc7** -1.82/23 0
[32.Rxa7∓ -1.43/22 Rxd6 33.Rc7]
32...Rxd6-+ 1:44 **33.Rxc5** 0 **a5** 3:56 **34.Ke2** 0 **a4** 1:40 **35.Rc1** -2.46/22 0
[35.f4 -1.78/21 was worth a try.]
35...a3 1:14 **36.f4** 0 **g5** 2:14 **37.fxg5+** 14 **Kxg5** 6 **38.g3** 1:12 **Kg4** 4:26 And now ...Rd5 would win. **39.Rc7** -2.22/19 2:21
[39.Kf2∓ -1.53/20]
39...Rh6 31 **40.Rg7+** 2:36 **Kh3** 4 **41.Bd7** 17 **b3?** -0.36/21 54
[41...Kxh2-+ -1.90/20 aiming for ...b3! 42.Bxf5 Na4]

(Diagram)



42.Bxf5+∓ 1:21 **Kxh2** 31 **43.Ra7** 2:24 **Kxg3** 26
[But not 43...bxa2 44.Rxa3 a1Q 45.Rxa1=]
44.Rxa3 1:03 **Rh2+** 29 **45.Kf1!** 1:32 **Kf4** 33 **46.Kg1** 1:01 The position is equal. **46...Rd2** 34 **47.Bxh7** 12 **bxa2** 29 **48.Rxa2** 10 **Nc4** 22 **49.Rxd2** 2 **Nxd2** 5 **50.Be4** 10:05 **Ke5** 30 White happily takes the draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) / Black=0.17 (very precise)
½-½

163 **C67**
□ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2687**
■ **Kozak,Adam** **2591**
Alba Iulia Final ROM GP KO rapid (3.2)
[Kitty Kat]

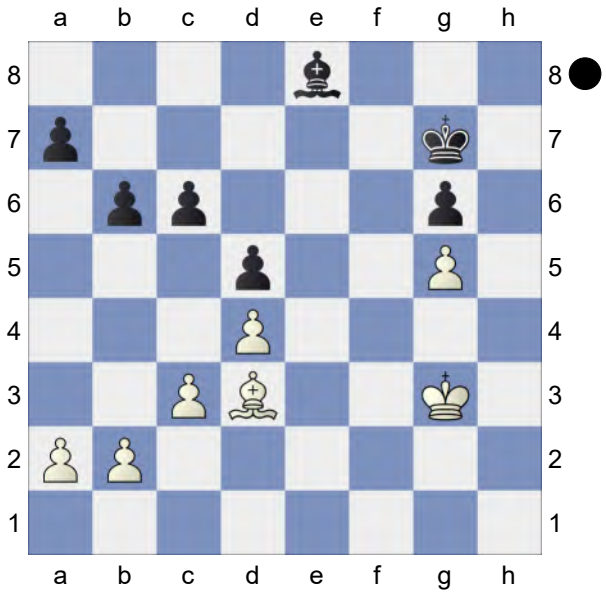
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** The main line 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. Die Hauptvariante 10...Te8 punktet besser

als 10...Sf5. The main line 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. Die Hauptvariante 10...Te8 punktet besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Qc3 d5 14.Nd2 c6 15.Re1 g6 16.Nb3 Ng7 17.Be5 Bxe5 18.Rxe5 Ne6 19.Nc5 Nxc5N**

[19...Qd6 20.Nxe6 Bxe6 21.h4 Re8 22.g3 f6 23.Re3 Kf7 24.Qa5 a6 25.Bd3 Re7 1-0 Kobalia,M (2584)-Inarkiev,E (2661) RUS-chT 30th 2023 (6.2) 1-0 Kobalia,M (2584)-Inarkiev,E (2661) RUS-chT 30th 2023 (6.2) 26.Qd2 h5 27.Qe1 Qd7 28.a4 Re8 29.a5 Kg7 30.c4 Bf7 31.Rxe8 Qxe8 32.Qxe8 Bxe8 33.cxd5 cxd5 34.Kg2 f5 35.Kf3 Kf6 36.Kf4 Bd7 37.Bc2 Be6 38.Ba4 Bc8 39.f3 Be6 40.Bb3 Bf7 1-0 Predein,V (2584)-Jimenez G, G (2661) Wijk 1996 (6.2)]

20.Qxc5 Be6 21.Bd3 Qf8 22.Qc3 Qd6 23.h4 f6 24.Re3 White is more active. **24...Bf7 25.g3 b6 26.Bf1 Re8 27.Rxe8+ Bxe8±** Endgame KQB-KQB **28.Qe3 Bd7 29.c3 Kg7 30.Bd3 Be6 31.Kg2 Bf7 32.g4 h6 33.g5 hxg5** The position is equal. **34.hxg5 fxg5 35.Qxg5 Qf6 36.f4 Qxg5+ 37.fxg5=** KB-KB **37...Be8 38.Kg3**

(Diagram)



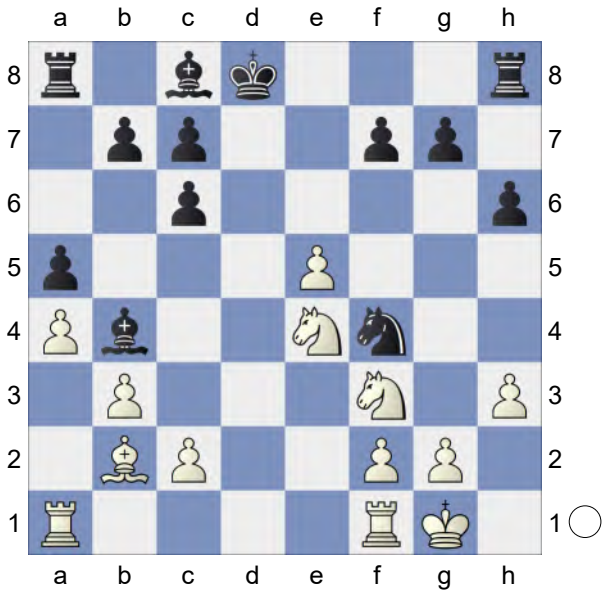
Kf7! 39.Kf4 and c3-c4 would now be decisive **39...Ke6 40.b4 Kd6! 41.Bc2 Bf7 42.Bd3 Be8! 43.c4 dxc4 44.Bxc4 Bd7 45.Bd3 Be8 46.Be4 Bf7 47.a3 Be8 48.Ke3 Bf7 49.Bd3 Be8 50.Bc4 Bd7 51.Bd3 Be8 52.Bc2 Bf7 53.Be4 Be8 54.Bb1 Bf7 55.Bc2 Be8 56.Bb3 Bd7 57.Bc2 Be8 58.Be4 Bf7 59.Kd3 Be8 60.Kd2 Bf7 61.Kc3 Be8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

164 **C67**
□ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2739**
■ **Le,Quang Liem** **2728**
Aimchess Rapid Div 3 L (7.2) 13.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 'Naiditsch,A: 'Inf 94/245' Naiditsch, Arkadij: 'Postny,Evgeny: 'Naiditsch,A: 'Inf 94/245'"' Hector Leyva: 'LesEchecs.com: 'C67: Partie espagnole (défense berlinoise ouverte) '' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+**

Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ne7 10.h3 h6 11.Ne4 Ng6 12.b3 a5
[12...c5 13.Be3 b6 14.Rad1+ Bd7 15.Nc3 Kc8 16.Nd5 Be6 17.c4 Kb7 18.Bc1 a5 19.a4 Rd8 20.g4 h5 21.Ne3 Re8 22.Rfe1 Nf4 23.Ng5 Be7 24.Nxe6 fxe6 25.gxh5 Nxh3+ 26.Kf1 Rxh5 27.Ng4 Polgar,J (2735)-Topalov,V (2788) San Luis, Argentina 2005 10000 Comentadas [Hector Leyva] 0-1 (64)]
13.a4 Bb4N 0.62/25
[13...Bd7= -0.16/21 14.Bb2 Nf4 15.Rad1 Ke8 16.Kh2 Rd8 17.Rfe1 Ne6 18.Nh4 c5 19.c4 Bc6 20.Rxd8+ Kxd8 21.g3 Kc8 22.f4 Be7 23.Nf5 Bd8 24.Nf2 g5 25.Bc1 gxf4 26.Bxf4 Bg5 27.Nd3 Rd8 28.Bxg5 Rxd3 Bologan,V (2700)-Naiditsch,A (2612) Saint Vincent 2005 CBM 110 [Postny,Evgeny] 0-1 (51) 29.Bxh6 Nd4 30.Nxd4 cxd4 31.Rb1 Be4 32.Rb2 Kd7 33.Rf2 Rf3 34.Rxf3 Bxf3 35.Bd2 b6 36.b4 axb4 37.Bxb4 c5 38.Bd2 Be2 39.g4 Bxc4 40.Kg3 Bd3 41.Kf4 c4 42.Bb4 c3 43.h4 Ke6 Bologan,V (2676)-Georgiev,K (2676) Poikovsky 81/275 2001 CI1-130 [Bologan,Viktor] 1-0 (51)]
[13...c5 14.Bb2 Be6 15.Nfd2 Nf4 16.Kh2 g6 17.Nc4 Kd7 18.g3 Nd5 19.f4 h5 20.Rad1 Kc6 21.Ng5 Bg7 22.Nxe6 fxe6 23.Bc1 Bh6 24.Kg2 Rhf8 25.Na3 Rf7 26.c4 Ne7 27.Rd3 Rg8 28.Rfd1 Ivanchuk,V (2740)-Alekseev,E (2711) Foros 2008 CBM 125 [Marin,Mihail] 1-0 (48)]
14.Bb2!± White is slightly better.
14...Nf4

(Diagram)



White must now prevent ...Bf5.
15.Rad1+ Ke8 And now ...Bf5 would win. **16.Nd4** Inhibits Bf5. **16...Be6** 1.35/21
[Better is 16...h5± 0.50/23]
17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Kh2 Rd8 1.21/19
[⌓18...Be7 0.81/23]
19.Rxd8+± Kxd8 20.g3 Nd5 21.c4 0.82/23
[⌓21.Rd1 1.16/23]
21...Nb6 22.f4 Nd7 23.Bd4 Prevents Nc5. **23...Ke7 24.g4 h5** 1.19/26
[⌓24...b6 0.84/23]
25.Kg2 hxg4 26.hxg4 g6 27.Bf2 b6 28.Rh1 0.21/25
[White should play 28.Ng5± 0.78/25]
28...Rxh1= 29.Kxh1 Endgame KBN-KBN **29...Ke8 30.Kg2 Be7 31.Kf3** 0.05/26
[31.Kg3± 0.80/23]
31...c5 32.Bg3 Nb8 33.Nc3 Nc6 34.Ne2 Nd4+ 35.Nxd4 0.00/45
[35.Ke3!± 0.45/24]
35...cxd4 The position is equal. **36.Ke4 c5 37.f5 Bg5 38.f6 Kf7 39.Bf4 Bxf4 40.Kxf4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.15 (very

precise) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
0-1

165 **C65**
□ **Vachier Lagrave,Maxime** **2747**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2742**
Global Chess League rapid (6.1) 26.6.23
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.0-0 Bd6 8.Nb3!** is more profitable than 8.b3 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 8.b3.
[8.d4 Nd7! 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.f4 Qd4+ 12.Kh1 Bd6 13.f5 Bd7 14.e5 -0.54/21 *(14.c3=* 0.05/19 *Qd3 15.Rf3)* 14...Be7 0.54/20 *(14...Bxe5∓* -0.54/21 *15.Qe1 f6)* 15.f6 0.08/20 *(15.Qe2±* 0.54/20 *)* 15...gxf6= 16.exf6 Bd6! 17.Ne4 Qxd1 18.Rxd1 ½-½ Vachier Lagrave, M (2784)-Aronian,L (2781) Skilling op Prelim rapid 2020 (10)]
8...b6N
[8...Qe7 9.Na5 Rb8 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 g5 12.Bg3 Nd7 13.d4 A6) Ruy Lopez – Berlin Defe-Ruy Lopez A Berlin Defense]
[8...a5 9.Qe1 a4 10.Na5 Qb8 11.b4 Bg4 *(11...0-0 12.Ng5 Re8 13.Nxe6 Rxe6 14.Bd2 Bf8 15.Rb1 b5 16.c4 c5 17.bxc5 Qd8 18.cxb5 Qxd3 19.Be3 Nxe4 20.b6 Nc3 21.Rb2 cxb6 22.cxb6 Rb8 23.Qd2 Qxd2 24.Rxd2 f5 25.Rc2 f4 26.Rxc3* Chapter-Games Game 13 (31)*)* 12.Nh4 0-0 13.Nc4 Be6 14.Nxd6 cxd6 15.f4 exf4 16.Bxf4 Re8 17.a3 Nh5 18.Bd2 d5 19.Qe2 Nf6 20.Rxf6 gxf6 21.Rf1 dxe4 22.Bc3 Qd6 23.Bxf6 Dominguez Perez,L (2763)-Aronian,L (2765) St. Louis Rapid & Blitz GCT 2019 [GM Dejan Bojkov] 1-0 (31)]
[8...h6 9.h3 Qe7 10.d4 0-0-0 11.Qe2 Bxb3 12.axb3 exd4 13.Rxa7 Qxe4 14.Qc4 Qd5 15.Qa4 Bc5 16.Ra5 b5 17.Qa1 Kb7 18.c4 dxc3 19.bxc3 Qxb3 20.Ba3 Bb6 21.Rb1 Qc4 22.Ne5 Qe6 23.c4 3.?c4 ?f6 (2247)-9.0-0 ed4 10.?d4 ?e8 (2336) Kallithea 2023 Inf 73 [John Watson] 0-1 (32)]
9.Ng5 Bg4 10.f3 Bh5 11.g4N -0.45/19
[Predecessor: 11.Kh1 Nd7 12.Nh3 f6 13.Be3 Qe7 14.Nd2 Nc5 15.Nc4 Ne6 16.Ng1 g5 17.Ne2 0-1 Abdusattorov,N (2731)-Caruana,F (2764) Norway Chess 11th 2023 (6)]
[11.a4= -0.10/18]
11...Bg6 12.d4 Nd7 0.15/17
[Much worse is 12...h6 13.dxe5 Bxe5 14.Nh3=]
[12...Qe7∓ -0.44/20]
13.dxe5= Bxe5 14.f4 Nf3 is the strong threat. **14...f6 15.fxe5 fxg5 16.e6! Ne5 17.Qxd8+ Rxd8 18.Bxg5 Rd6 19.Bf4 Rxe6 20.Nd4 Re7 21.h3 0-0 22.Nf5 Re6 23.Rad1 h5! 24.Bxe5 Rxe5 25.Rf4 hxg4 26.hxg4 Rfe8 27.Rd7 Bxf5 28.exf5 Re4 29.Rxe4 Rxe4 30.Rxc7** The position is equal. **30...Rxg4+±** Endgame KR-KR **31.Kf2 Rf4+ 32.Kg3 Rxf5 33.Rxa7 Rg5+ 34.Kf3 Rf5+ 35.Kg3 Rg5+ 36.Kf4 Rg2 37.Ra6 Rxc2 38.Rxb6 Kf7 39.Ke5** next Rb7+ is good for White. **39...g5! 40.b4 g4** And now ...g3 would win. **41.Kf4 Rxa2 42.Rxc6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) / Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

166 **C65**
□ **Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi** **2721**
■ **Sethuraman,SP.** **2557**
Chessable Masters Play In blitz (6)
[Kitty Kat]

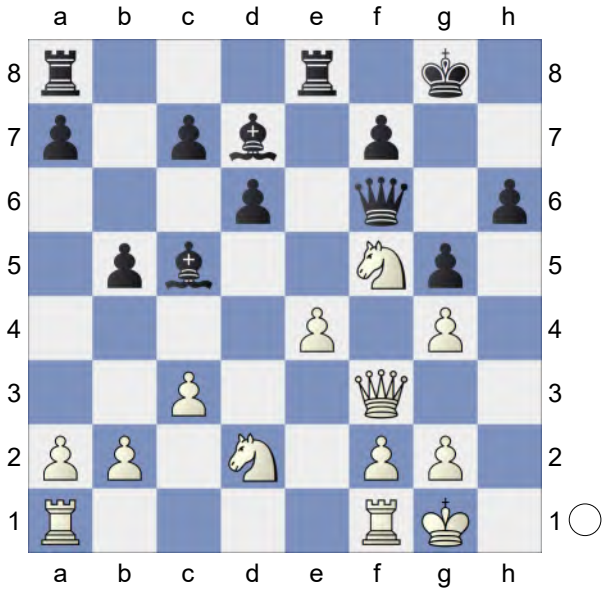
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 My opponent Le Quang Liem, currently number 15 in the World, just won strong tournament in Biel. He is also tough rival for me: I lost two times with black against him in Dortmund with some other games that were drawn. However, this match was much easier for me compare to the previous one. In each game I was dominating with a chance to win the match much earlier. This game just an example. Mein Gegner Le Quang Liem, derzeit die Nummer 15 der Welt, hat gerade ein starkes Turnier in Biel gewonnen. Er ist auch ein harter Gegner für mich: Ich habe in Dortmund zwei Mal mit Schwarz gegen ihn verloren und einige andere Partien endeten remis. Aber dieses Match war viel einfacher für mich im Vergleich zu dem vorherigen. In jeder Partie dominierte ich und hatte die Chance, das Match viel früher zu gewinnen. Diese Partie ist nur ein Beispiel dafür. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 d6 8.Nbd2** The position is equal. **8...Bd7**

[8...g5 9.Bg3 Nh5 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.d4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Nxg3 13.hxg3 Qf6 14.Qh5 Bxd4 15.cxd4 Qxd4 16.Qxh6 Qg7 17.0-0-0 Rb8 18.e5 dxe5 19.Ne4 f6 20.f3 Bf5 21.Qxg7+ Kxg7 22.Nc5 Rb5 23.Na4 0-1 Deslandes,P (2835)-Grube,J (2764) 3.--- 1990 (5)]

9.0-0 g5N

[9...a6 10.Ba4 Ba7 *(10...g5 11.Bg3 Ba7 12.Bc2 Nh7 13.Kh1 Kh8 14.Nc4 h5 15.h4 g4 16.Ng1 f5 17.exf5 Bxf5 18.Ne2 Qd7 19.Ne3 Bg6 20.d4 Qf7 21.Bxg6 Qxg6 22.Qb3 Rab8 23.dxe5 dxe5 24.Nd5 Nf6 25.Nxf6* 0-1 Kopjonkin,G (2542)-Daubenfeld,G (2521) Celle Ligure op 1996 *)* 11.Re1 Kh8 12.Nf1 g5 13.Bg3 Nh7 14.Ne3 h5 15.h3 Bxe3 16.Rxe3 f6 17.d4 Qe8 18.Bb3 Rd8 19.h4 g4 20.Nh2 Qg6 21.Nf1 Na5 22.Qd3 Nxb3 23.axb3 Rf7 24.Rae1 ½-½ Warlick,J (2664)-Persse,D (2728) 4647 Hastings 1946 (3.2) Re8 25.Kh2 Qh6 26.R3e2 Be6 27.c4 Nf8 28.Ne3 Ng6 29.Nd5 Qg7 30.Ne3 Qh7 31.Nd5 Qg7 32.Ne3 Qh7 33.Nd5 ½-½ Ponomariov,R (2664)-Le,Q (2728) FIDE World Cup 2023 (3.2)]

10.Bg3 Nh5 11.Bxc6 Nxg3 12.hxg3 Bxc6 13.d4 exd4 14.Nxd4 Bd7 15.Nf5 Qf6 16.Qf3 Rfe8 17.g4 b5

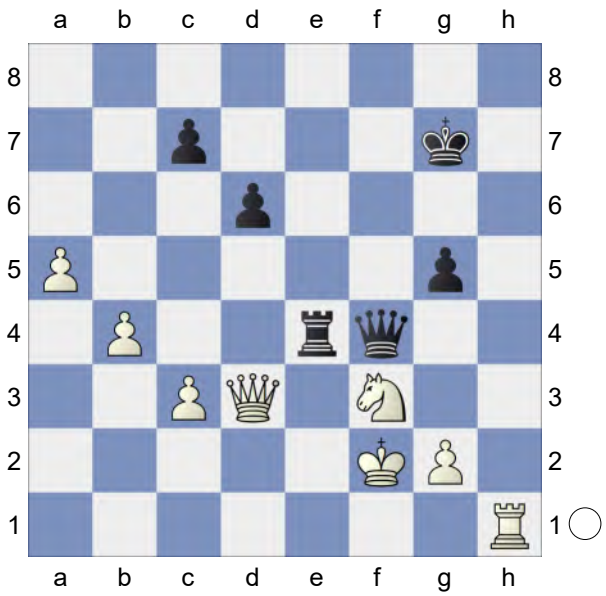


18.e5! Deflection **18...Qxe5** Threatens to win with ...Bd7xf5. **19.Nxh6+** -0.14/23 A dynamic duo of knights.

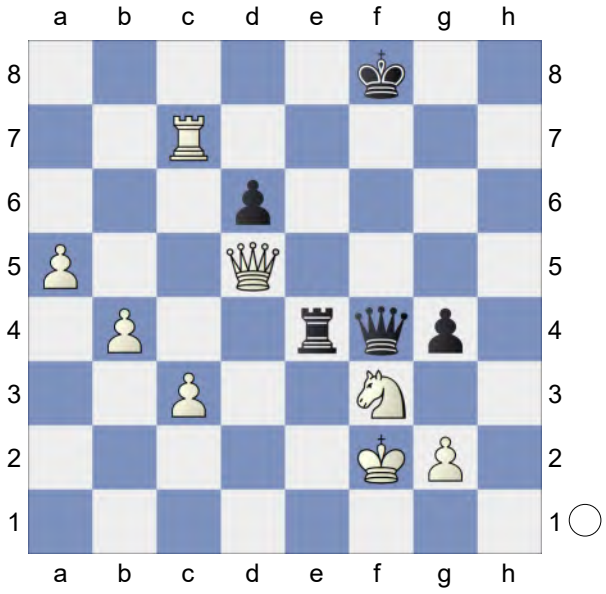
[White should try 19.Rae1± 0.52/24

Qf4 20.Qxf4 gxf4 21.Re4]
19...Kg7= 20.Qxf7+
[20.Nxf7 Qe7 21.Rfe1 *(21.b4? Bb6-+)* 21...Qxf7-+]
[20.b4 looks sharper. Kxh6 21.bxc5 dxc5 22.Qxf7 Bxg4 23.Rfe1]
20...Kxh6 21.Qxd7 Re7 22.Qc6
[22.Qxb5? Bxf2+ 23.Rxf2 Qxb5-+]
[22.Qf5 simplifies Qxf5 23.gxf5 Re2 24.Nb3]
22...Rae8 1.23/24
[22...Rf8= -0.21/21 keeps the balance.]
23.Nf3
[23.Qxb5? Bxf2+ 24.Rxf2 Qxb5-+]
23...Qf4 0.88/20
[Black should try 23...Qe4 1.32/24 24.Qxb5 Qxg4]
24.b4 1.49/21
[Resist 24.Qxb5 Qxg4 25.Nd4 Bxd4 26.cxd4 Qh5+-]
[⌓24.a4 0.88/20 b4 25.cxb4 Qxb4 *(25...Bxb4 26.Rac1+-)* 26.Rac1]
24...Bb6± 25.Qxb5 Re2? 2.68/20
Loses the game.
[25...Qxg4± 1.01/21 26.a4 a5 27.bxa5 Bc5]
26.a4+- a4-a5 would now be deadly.
26...a6? 4.61/19
[26...Qxg4? loses. 27.a5+-]
[26...R8e5 2.68/18 27.Nxe5 Bxf2+ 28.Kh1 Rxe5]
27.Qxa6 White is clearly winning.
27...Qxg4 7.43/21
[⌓27...Kg7 4.74/19 28.Qb5 Rxf2 29.Rxf2 Bxf2+ 30.Kf1 *(30.Kxf2 Qe3+ 31.Kf1 Rh8±)* 30...Qe3]
28.a5 Bxf2+ 29.Rxf2 Rxf2 30.Kxf2 Qf4 31.Rh1+ Kg7 32.Qd3 Re4

(Diagram)



33.Rh7+!! Kg8
[33...Kf6 34.Rf7+]
34.Rxc7 g4 35.Qd5+ Kf8

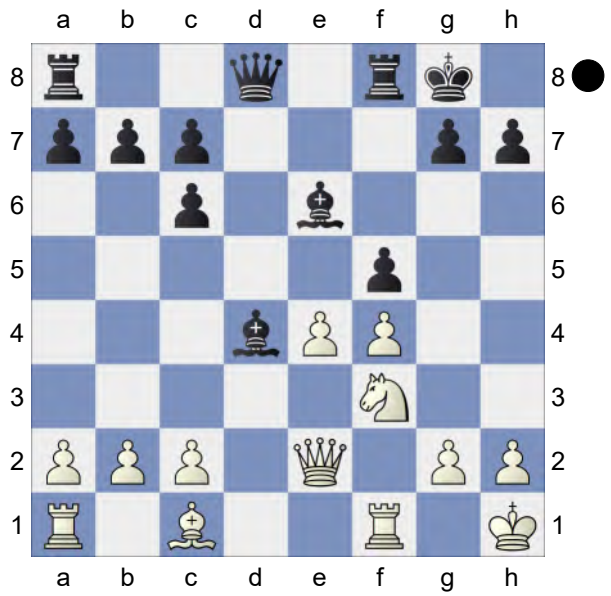


36.Rf7+!! Qxf7 37.Qxe4 g3+
Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.90
1-0

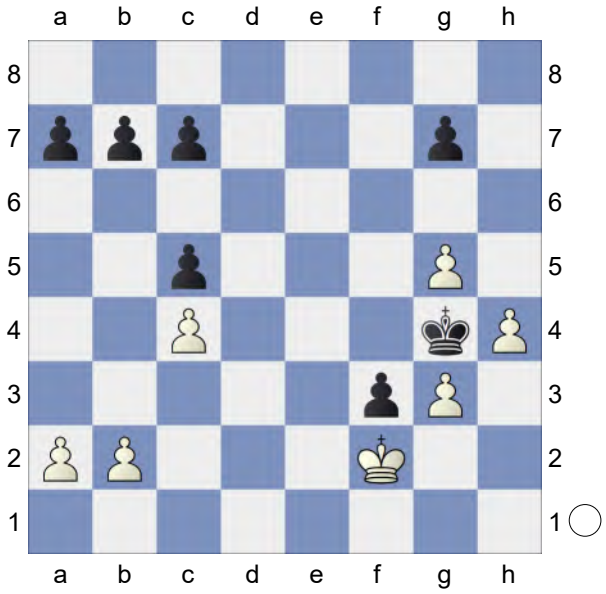
167 **C65**
□ **Ding,Liren** **2734**
■ **Aditya,Mittal** **2550**
Chessable Masters Play In blitz (6)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Be6 7.0-0
[7.Nxe5? Qd4 8.Rf1 Qxe5-+]
7...Bd6 8.d4 8.Nb3 is setting a new trend. 8.Sb3 setzt einen neuen Trend.
8...Nd7 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.f4 Bd4+
[11...Qd4+ 12.Kh1 Bd6 13.Qe2 0-0-0 14.f5 Bd7 15.Nf3 Qa4 16.b3 Qa5 17.Bd2 Bb4 18.Bxb4 Qxb4 19.Qf2 b6 20.Ng5 Qe7 21.f6 gxf6 22.Qxf6 Qxf6 23.Rxf6 Be8 24.Nxf7 Bxf7 25.Rxf7 Rd2 26.Rc1 Nakamura,H (2787)-Aronian,L (2792) Zuerich (blitz) 131/(119) 2016 Chess Informant 131 [Tadic,Branko] (45)]
12.Kh1 f5 0.45/20
[12...Qe7= 0.06/19]
13.Qe2 0.01/20
[13.Qh5+± 0.45/20 should be considered. g6 14.Qe2 0-0 15.Nf3 *(15.Rd1 Qe8 16.e5 Bc5 17.Nb3 Be7 18.Be3 Qf7 19.Nc5 Bc4 20.Qf2 b6 21.b3 Be6 22.Nxe6 Qxe6 23.Qe2 a5 24.a4 Rfd8 25.h3 h5 26.Bf2 Rd5 27.c4 Rdd8 28.Qe1 Bb4 29.Qe2 Be7* 1-0 Robson,R (2693)-Niemann,H (2733) USA-ch Saint Louis 2024 (7)*)* 15...Bf6 16.e5 Be7 17.Rd1 Qe8 18.Nd4 Qf7 19.Nxe6 Qxe6 20.Be3 Rad8 21.c4 a6 22.b3 Kf7 23.h3 h5 24.Bf2 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Rd8 26.Rxd8 Bxd8 27.Qe1 Qe7 28.Kh2 Ke6 29.Qd2 Anand,V (2757)-So,W (2760) Tata Steel Rapid & Blitz 2019 [GM Dejan Bojkov] 1-0 (50)]
13...0-0 14.Nf3N
[14.Rd1 Qe7 15.Nf3 Bc5 16.Re1 Rae8 17.exf5 Bd5 18.Ne5 Rxf5 19.c4 Be6 20.Bd2 Bd6 21.Rf1 Ref8 22.b3 Bxe5 23.fxe5 Qc5 24.Bc3 b5 25.Rxf5 Rxf5 26.Rd1 Qf2 27.Qd3 bxc4 28.bxc4 h6 4.c3 ?f6 5.e5/6...f5 (2668)-Osnos,V (2793) corr 2017 200 Traps In The Opening [List,Paul M] 0-1 (65) 29.Bd4 Qxa2 30.Ra1 Qxc4 31.Qxc4 Bxc4 32.Bxa7 Rxe5 33.Kg1 Bd5 34.Rc1 Re2 35.Bf2 Kf7 36.h3 Ra2 37.Rc3 g5 38.Rc1 h5 39.Rc3 Kg6 40.Rc1 Kf5 41.Rc3 g4 42.hxg4+ hxg4 43.Bg3 Rxg2+ Robson,R (2668)-Nakamura,H (2793) United States 2017 132 Games Section [Ehlvest,Jaan] (65) 44.Kf1 Rxg3 45.Rxg3 c5 46.Kf2 Kf4 47.Rd3 c6 48.Ra3 c4 49.Rc3 Be6 50.Ra3 Bf5 51.Rg3 Bd3 52.Re3 Be4 53.Ra3 Bd3 54.Ra5 g3+ 55.Kg1 Be4 56.Ra3 Bd5 57.Kf1 g2+ 58.Kf2 Ke5 0-1 4.c3 ♘f6 5.e5/6...f5_42692 (2668)-Osnos,V (2793) Hungary Cht07-01 9798 1997 (1.3)]

(Diagram)

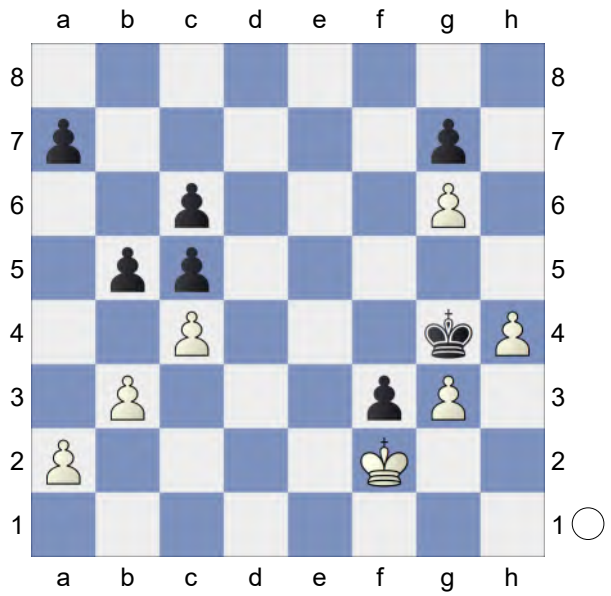


14...Bc5!?N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[14...Bf6 15.e5 Rd1 is the strong threat. Be7 16.Rd1 Repels Qd8-d5 Qe8 17.Nd4! Qf7 18.Nxe6 Qxe6 19.Be3 Rfd8 20.a4 a6 ½-½ Saric,I (2667)-Malakhov,V (2662) CRO-chT1A 28th 2019 (5.52)]
15.Ng5 Qe7 16.Be3 -0.01/24
[Much worse is 16.Qh5 h6 17.Nxe6 Qxe6∓]
[16.Nxe6± 0.39/19 Qxe6 17.e5]
[16.e5± 0.31/18]
16...Bxe3= 17.Qxe3 Bc4! 18.Rfe1↑ White has good play. **18...h6** 0.30/20
[⌓18...fxe4 -0.19/21 19.Qh3 h6 20.Rxe4 Qf6 21.Rxc4 hxg5]
19.Qc3 hxg5 0.71/22
[19...b5!= 0.08/23 keeps the balance. 20.exf5 Discovered Attack Qf6 21.Qxf6 Rxf6]
20.Qxc4+± Qf7 21.Qxf7+ Rxf7 1.17/22
[⌓21...Kxf7± 0.60/21 22.fxg5 f4]
22.fxg5± fxe4± Endgame KRR-KRR
23.Kg1 0.35/19
[White should play 23.Rxe4± 1.30/21 Hoping for Rae1. Rf2 *(23...Rd8 24.h4)* 24.Rd1]
23...Rd8 1.03/21
[23...Re8± 0.35/19]
[23...Rf4± 0.70/21]
24.Rad1? 0.09/21
[24.Rxe4± 1.03/21 aiming for h4. Kh7 *(24...Rd2 25.g6)* 25.Rf1 Rxf1+ 26.Kxf1]
24...Rd5!= 25.h4 Kh7 26.c4 Rxd1 27.Rxd1 KR-KR **27...Kg6 28.Re1 Rf4 29.g3 Rf3 30.Kg2 Kf5 31.Rf1 Kg4 32.Rxf3 exf3+** KP-KP **33.Kf2** next g6 is good for White. White wants to play g5-g6. **33...c5?** 2.83/24
[33...a5= 0.01/22]
[33...g6= 0.01/23]

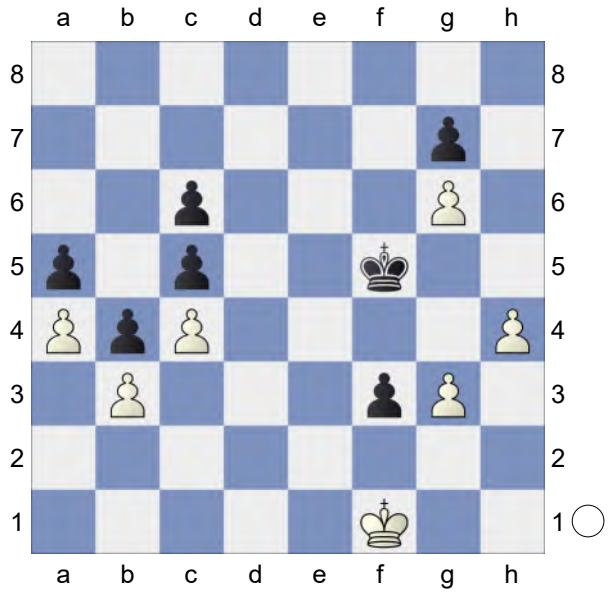


34.g6!+- c6? 3.19/26
[34...a6± 1.36/22 is a better defense.]
35.b3? 0.10/26
[Better is 35.Kf1+- 2.74/26 and Kf1-f2 would now be decisive a5 *(35...Kxg3? 36.h5+-)* 36.a4 *(36.Kf2 b5=)*]
35...b5?= 6.10/27
[35...a6 2.93/22 36.Kg1 Kh5]

(Diagram)



36.a3! a5 0.64/27 **37.a4!± b4 38.Kf1 Kf5?** 13.90/27
[38...Kxg3? 39.h5+-]
[38...Kh5!= 0.07/34 and Black is okay.]



39.Ke1? 0.01/31
[Not 39.Kf2 Kg4 40.Kf1 Kh5±]
[Only move: 39.h5!+- 13.90/27 Ke4 *(39...Ke5 40.h6* Promotion *gxh6 41.g7)* 40.h6 gxh6 41.g7]
39...Kxg6= The position is equal. **40.Kf2 Kf5 41.Kxf3 Ke5 42.g4**
[42.h5!?]
42...Kd4 White must now prevent ...Kc3.
43.h5 Kc3 44.g5! Kxb3 45.h6 gxh6
[45...Kxa4? 46.hxg7 Kb3 47.g8Q+- *(47.g8R Kxc4 48.g6 Kc3+-)*]
46.gxh6 Ka2 And now ...b3 would win.
[46...Kxc4 47.h7 Kd3 48.h8Q+-]
[46...Ka3!? 47.h7□ b3±]
47.h7 b3! Threatens to win with ...b2. Threatens to win with ...b3-b2. **48.h8Q**
[48.h8R b2 49.Rh1 b1Q *(49...b1R 50.Rh5=)* 50.Rxb1 Kxb1-+]
48...b2 49.Qh2 Ka1⇄ Black has counterplay **50.Qe5 Ka2 51.Qe2 Ka1 52.Qe5** Strongly threatening Kf4. **52...Ka2 53.Qxc5 b1Q**
[53...b1R? loses. 54.Qxa5 *(54.Qxc6 Rb2+-)* 54...Rb3+ 55.Ke4+-]
54.Qxa5 Qd3+ 55.Kf2 Qd4+ 56.Kf3 Qd3+ 57.Kf2 Qd4+ 58.Kf3 Qd3+ Black escapes into a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) / Black=0.29 (precise) Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/Black=0.26 (precise)
[Don't play 58...Qxc4 59.Qd2+ Kb3 60.a5∓]
½-½

168 **C65**
□ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2731**
■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2764**
Norway Chess 11th (6) 05.06.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Bd6 7.Nbd2 Be6 8.Nb3** -0.01/16 is more profitable than 8. b3 at the moment. scheint profitabler als 8.b3.
[8.d4± 0.39/18 is superior. Nd7

9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.Nf3 *(11.f4 Qd4+ 12.Kh1 Bd6 13.Qe2 0-0-0 14.f5 Bd7 15.Nf3 Qa4 16.b3 Qa5 17.Bd2 Bb4 18.Bxb4 Qxb4 19.Qf2 b6 20.Ng5 Qe7 21.f6 gxf6 22.Qxf6 Qxf6 23.Rxf6 Be8 24.Nxf7 Bxf7 25.Rxf7 Rd2* Nakamura,H (2787)-Aronian,L (2792) Zuerich (blitz) 131/(119) 2016 Chess Informant 131 [Tadic,Branko] (45)*)* 11...Qxd1 12.Rxd1]

8...b6N Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. '!?'

[8...h6 9.h3 Qe7 10.d4 0-0-0 11.Qe2 Bxb3 12.axb3 exd4 13.Rxa7 Qxe4 14.Qc4 Qd5 15.Qa4 Bc5 16.Ra5 b5 17.Qa1 Kb7 18.c4 dxc3 19.bxc3 Qxb3 20.Ba3 Bb6 21.Rb1 Qc4 22.Ne5 Qe6 23.c4 3.?c4 ?f6 (2247)-9.0-0 ed4 10.?d4 ?e8 (2336) Kallithea 2023 Inf 73 [John Watson] 0-1 (32)]

[8...Qe7 9.d4 *(9.Na5 Rb8 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 g5 12.Bg3 Nd7 13.d4* A6) Ruy Lopez – Berlin Defe-Ruy Lopez A Berlin Defense*)* 9...Nd7 10.Qe2 0-0 11.Bg5 f6 12.Bh4 a5 13.c4 a4 14.Nbd2 c5 15.d5 Bg4 16.Rfe1 Rfe8 17.Nf1 Nf8 18.Ne3 Bd7 19.Nf5 Qf7 20.Nd2 Ng6 21.Bg3 Ne7 22.Ne3 Ng6 23.f3 Sikorova,J (2736)-8.?h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2603) Baku 2023 Steinitz/Chigorin [John Watson] 0-1 (53)]

9.Ng5N

[Predecessor: 9.Bg5 Qd7 10.Bh4 c5 Inhibits d4. 11.Nbd2 Nh5 12.Ng5 Nf4 13.Nxe6 Nxe6 14.Nc4 f6 15.f3 1-0 Caruana,F (2766)-Aronian,L (2745) American Cup Elim rapid 2023 (2.4)]

9...Bg4 10.f3 Bh5 11.Kh1 Nd7 12.Nh3 f6 13.Be3 Qe7 14.Nd2 Nc5 15.Nc4 Ne6 16.Ng1 -0.26/18

[⌓16.Qe1 0.05/17]

16...g5 17.Ne2 Bf7 18.Qe1 h5 19.Nxd6+ cxd6 0.34/17

[19...Qxd6= -0.20/20 20.h4 0-0-0]

20.a4± h4 21.a5 b5 22.h3 a6 23.d4 c5 24.c3 Kf8 25.Rd1 Kg7 26.Qf2 Rac8 27.Rd2 Qc7 28.Ra1 0.15/19

[28.b4!± 0.55/21]

28...Rhd8 0.59/18

[28...Nf4= 0.15/19]

29.b4! cxd4 30.cxd4 Qe7 0.97/20

[30...Qb7± 0.63/20]

31.Rad1 0.47/20

[31.d5± 0.97/20]

31...Rh8 0.85/22

[31...Rc4± 0.47/20]

32.Qe1 0.51/22

[Better is 32.d5± 0.85/22 Nf8 33.Rc1]

32...Rc4 33.dxe5 -0.01/21

[33.d5± 0.45/20 feels stronger. Nf4 34.Bxf4 gxf4 35.Rc1]

33...dxe5= 34.Rd6 Rd8 35.Rxd8 Nxd8 36.g3 hxg3 37.Nxg3 Be6 38.Qd2 -0.41/24

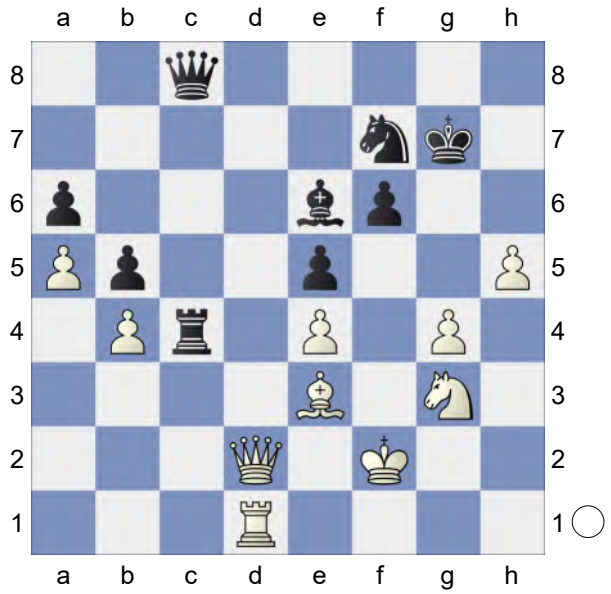
[38.h4!= -0.09/20]

38...Nf7

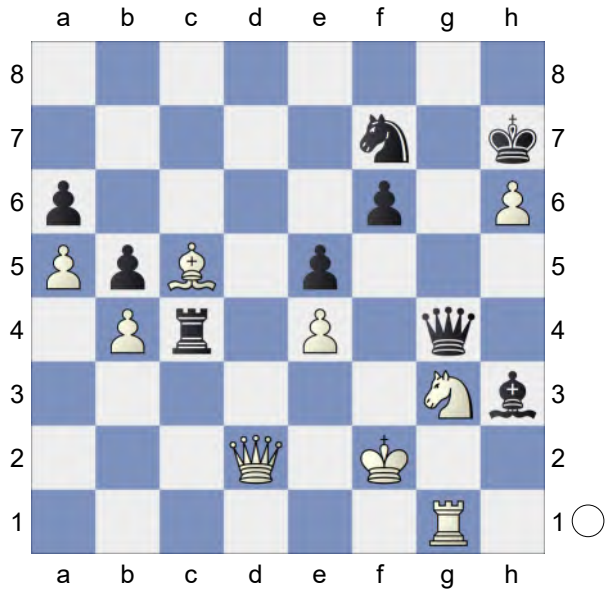
[38...Nc6!? 39.Bc5 Qe8∓]

39.Bc5 Qe8 ...Qh8 is the strong threat. **40.h4 Qh8 41.h5 Qh7 42.Kg2 Qh6 43.Kf2 g4** And now ...Qf4 would win. **44.Be3** Prevents Qf4. **44...Qh8! 45.fxg4 Qc8**

(Diagram)



aiming for ...Rc2. **46.Bc5** -0.52/22
[White should try 46.Rc1!= -0.01/22]
46...Bxg4∓ 47.Rf1 Bh3 -1.03/22
[Black should play 47...Qe6 -0.72/21]
48.Rg1 Threatens to win with Nf5+.
48...Kh7 49.h6 -1.45/22
[⌓49.Rc1 -1.03/21]
49...Qg4

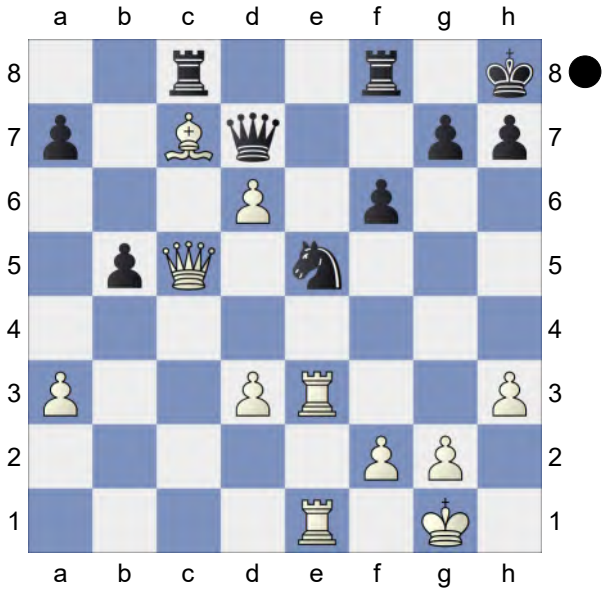


Hoping for ...Ng5. **50.Nf5** -2.14/25
[50.Be3∓ -1.60/22 keeps fighting. Qh4 51.Qd1 Rxb4 52.Qh5 Rb2+ 53.Ke1 Qxh5 54.Nxh5 Rb1+ 55.Kd2 Rxg1 56.Bxg1]
50...Qxe4-+ 51.Rg7+ Kh8 The board is on fire. **52.Ne3** Prevents Rc2. **52...Nxh6 53.Nxc4 Kxg7 54.Bf8+ Kxf8** -1.10/23
[54...Kg8-+ -1.76/24 55.Qxh6 Qg2+ 56.Ke3 Qg3+ 57.Ke2 Qg2+ 58.Ke1 Qg3+ 59.Ke2 Qg2+ 60.Ke3 bxc4]
55.Qxh6+∓ Kg8 56.Ne3 -3.88/26 Against Qg2+
[56.Qxh3 -1.86/22 Qc2+ 57.Kf3 Qxc4 58.Qd7]
56...Bf5-+ 57.Qh5 Bg6 58.Qh3 f5 59.Qh6? -5.83/23
[59.Qf3 -3.55/22 Qh4+ 60.Kf1]
59...Kf7 60.Qh8 -9.29/26
[⌓60.Qh3 -4.41/21]
60...Qd4 61.Ke2 f4 62.Ng4 f3+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.16 (very precise)
0-1

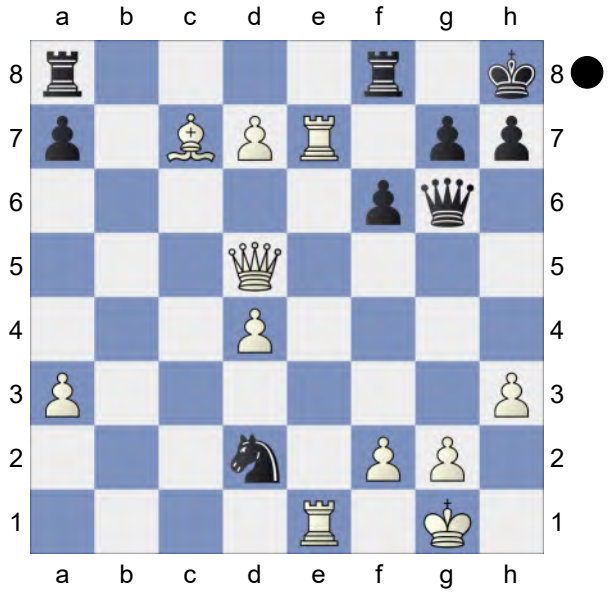
169 **C67**
□ **Wang,Yue** **2658**
■ **Ma,Qun** **2602**
CHN-ch Blitz (8) 14.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 d5 9.d4 0-0** White is slightly better. **10.Nc3 Bb4 11.a3 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Nd6** Against c3-c4 **13.Bf4!N** A relevant novelty. Eine relevante Neuerung.
[13.h3 Bf5 14.Bf4 Re8 15.Rxe8+ Qxe8 16.Nh4 Be4 17.f3 And now Bf4xd6! would win. Bg6 18.Nxg6 hxg6 19.Bd3 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2736)-Carlsen,M (2863) Carlsen Tour Final rapid 2020 (2.51)]
13...Ne7 14.h3 Ng6 15.Bh2 Bf5N

[15...Re8 16.Ne5 Bf5 17.a4 a5 18.Bd3 Qg5 19.Qc1 7 Chapter-Games Chapter 12 Game]
16.Bd3 Bxd3 17.cxd3 Nf5 18.Ne5 Nxe5 0.64/19
[18...f6= 0.18/19 19.Nxg6 hxg6]
19.Rxe5± Ne7 1.04/20
[19...Qd7± 0.41/21]
20.Qb3± f6 21.Re2 b6 22.Rae1 White has more active pieces. **22...Ng6 23.c4 dxc4** 2.43/20 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[23...f5± 0.95/19]
24.Qxc4++- Kh8 2.98/21
[⌓24...Rf7 2.12/23 25.h4 Kf8 26.Re8+ Qxe8 27.Rxe8+ Rxe8 28.Bxc7 Kg8]
25.Bxc7
[Not 25.Qxc7 Qxd4 26.Qb7 h6=]
25...Qd7 26.d5 b5 4.38/20
[⌓26...h6 2.89/19 27.d6 Rae8]
27.Qc5 Rac8 28.d6 Ne5 29.Re3
[29.Qxa7 Ra8 30.Qb7 Rxa3+-]



29...Qf7 6.19/22
[⌓29...Rce8 4.12/20 30.Qxa7 Ra8]
30.d4 White is clearly winning. **30...Nc4 31.Re7 Qg6 32.d7 Ra8 33.Qxb5 Nd2 34.Qd5**
[Less strong is 34.d8B Nf3+ 35.Kh1 Nxe1 36.Rxe1 Raxd8+-]



Intending Qd5xa8! and mate. **34...h6 35.d8Q** Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.69
1-0

170 **C65**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2726**
■ **Melkumyan,Hrant** **2650**
FIDE Grand Swiss (7) 01.11.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Nd7 7.c3 0-0 8.d4** The position is equal. **8...Bd6 9.Bg5 Qe8**
[9...f6 10.Bh4 c5 11.Bg3 Qe7 12.dxe5 fxe5 13.Nbd2 Nb6 14.Qe2 Bg4 15.h3 Bh5 16.Rfe1 Kh8 17.Qe3 h6 18.Nh4 Qf6 19.Nf5 Bg6 20.Bh4 Qe6 21.g4 a5 22.Nf3 a4 23.Rad1 Qxa2 24.Nxh6 Duriga,S

(2758)-Proskurin,N (2629) Amsterdam NED 2020 200 Traps In The Opening [List,Paul M] 0-1 (47)]

10.Re1 b6N

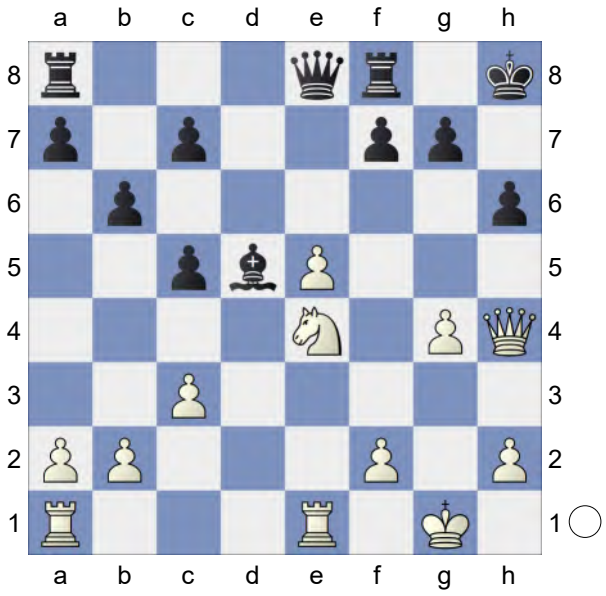
[10...f6 11.Bh4 a5 12.Nbd2 Qf7 *(12...a4 13.Bg3 Qf7 14.Qc2 Re8 15.b3 Nb6 16.c4 exd4 17.Bxd6 cxd6 18.Nxd4 axb3 19.axb3 Rxa1 20.Rxa1 Qc7 21.Nf1 Nd7 22.Ng3 Nc5 23.b4 Ne6 24.Ndf5 Ng5 25.h4 Nxe4 26.Nxe4 Bxf5 27.Nxf6+* Skopec,L (2604)-8. ♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2627) corr 2023 Chess Today CT-827 [John Watson] 0-1 (65)*)* 13.Bg3 0.00 Lesson 18: Spanish,B-Spanish Berlin 4. d3 Bc5 5.]

[10...c5 11.Bh4 cxd4 12.cxd4 exd4 13.Nxd4 Ne5 14.Nc3 Bg4 15.f3 Be6 16.Qc2 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin (4.-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6...]

11.Nbd2 Qe6 12.dxe5 0.03/24

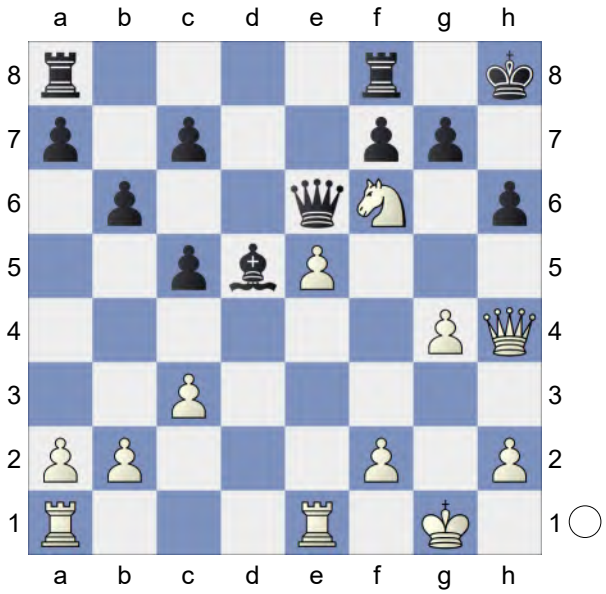
[12.Bh4± 0.35/25]

12...Nxe5= 13.Nxe5 Qxe5 14.Nf3 Qe8 15.e5 Be7 16.Qd3 Be6 17.Qe4 c5 18.Qh4! Bxg5 19.Nxg5 h6 20.Ne4 Hoping for Nf6+! **20...Kh8 21.g4 Bd5**



22.Nf6! Qe6

(Diagram)



23.Re3! Bb7

[23...gxf6 24.Qxh6+ Kg8 25.exf6]

24.Qh5 Rh3! is the strong threat.

24...Qc6

[24...gxf6 is a self mate. 25.Qxh6+ Kg8 26.exf6]

25.f3 Active counter play! **25...Qe6 26.Ne4** -0.31/22

[26.Qh4= 0.00/24 deserves consideration.]

26...Rad8∓ White must now prevent ... Bxe4. **27.Qf5 Rfe8** 0.00/23

[27...Rd5∓ -0.43/23 28.Qxe6 fxe6]

28.Qxe6→ White has some attack.

28...Rxe6 29.Nf2 -0.42/21

[29.f4= 0.00/23 should be considered.]

29...Rd2 0.14/21

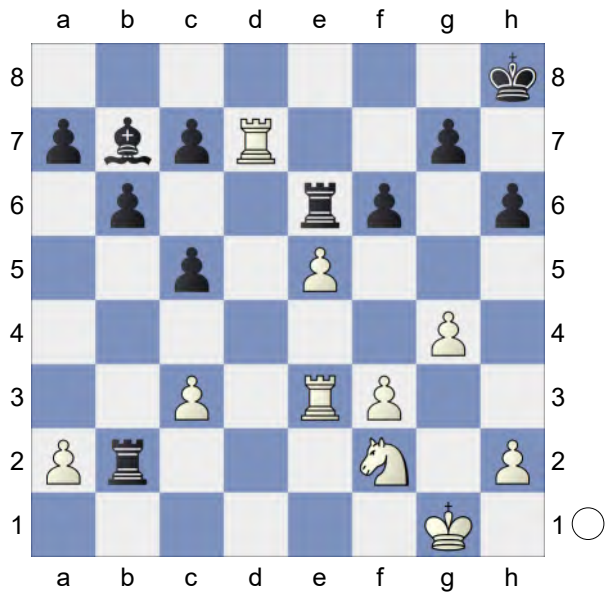
[Black should play 29...f6∓ -0.42/21]

30.Rd1! Rxb2 Threatens to win with ... Bc6. **31.Rd7 f6** 1.65/18

[Don't play 31...Rxa2 32.Rxf7 Bd5 33.Rxc7∓]

[31...Kg8= 0.24/23]

(Diagram)

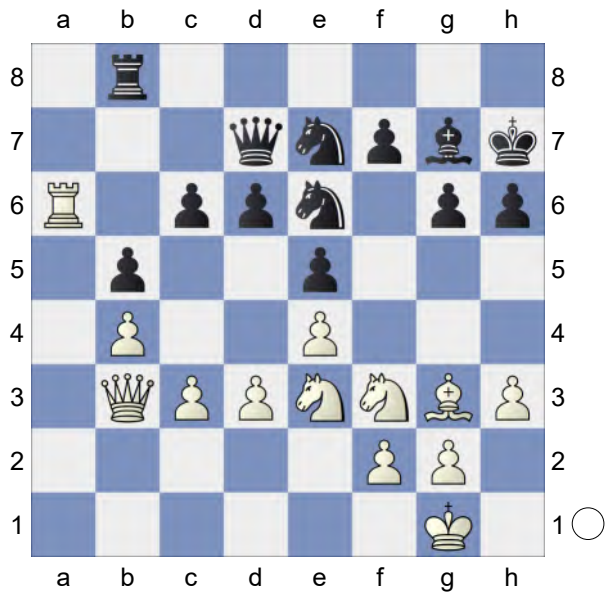


This move loses the game for Black.
32.Nd3!+- Rb1+ 33.Kf2 fxe5 2.35/20
[⌓33...Kg8 1.82/21]
34.Nxe5 Kh7
[Weaker is 34...Rb2+ 35.Kg3 Kg8 36.Rxc7±]
35.Rxc7 Ba6 36.Rxa7 Rb2+ 37.Kg3 Rxa2 38.c4 Ra4 3.99/20
[38...Re8 2.50/20 might work better. 39.h4 Rd8]
39.f4 Bb5 40.Rc7 White is clearly winning. **40...Be8 41.f5 Rf6 42.Rc8** Prevents Ra8. Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.28 (precise)
1-0

171 **C65**
□ **Ivic,Velimir** **2628**
■ **Sanal,V.** **2538**
25th European Teams (7.4) 12.10.2025
[Kitty Kat]

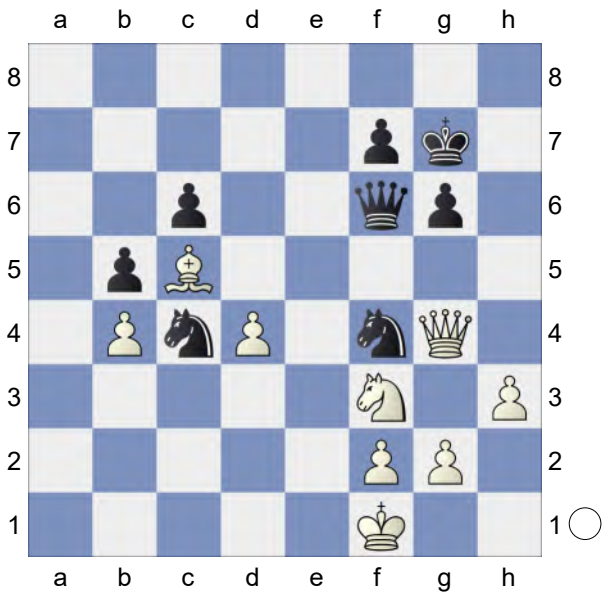
C84: Closed Ruy Lopez: Unusual White 6th moves We have seen in a couple of examples in my favorite Breyer system what happens when White gets the dream setup; now it is time to look at what can happen when things get out of control in a similar structure! The following game is extremely instructive.
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.c3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.Re1 a6 8.Ba4
[8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Qc2 c5 13.Be3 c4 14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Bg4 16.Nd2 Qd7 17.Nf1 Bf5 18.Qd2 Rab8 19.Bg5 Ba3 20.Ng3 Bg6 21.f4 h6 22.Bf6 Qg4 ½-½ Karjakin,S (2788)-Ivanchuk,V (2768) WchT 8th Ningbo 2011 (6.1)]
8...Re8 9.h3N
[9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.h3 b5 11.Bc2 Bb7 12.d4 g6 13.a3 Nb8 14.d5 c6 15.c4 Nbd7 16.a4 Qc7 17.b3 Rec8 18.Ra2 bxc4 19.bxc4 a5 20.Nf1 Ba6 21.Ne3 Nc5 22.Nd2 cxd5 23.cxd5 Rab8 4.1) Model Games: Zaitsev-Bre-Alireza Firouzja-Magnus Carls Super Grandmaster Strategy: Leko's Ruy 2024]
9...Bf8 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 White is slightly better. **11...Bd7 12.Nbd2 g6 13.b4 Bg7 14.Bb3 Qc8 15.Nf1 Nh5 16.Ne3! Nf4 17.Bg3 Be6 18.Bxe6** 0.28/22
[18.Bc2± 0.68/19 feels stronger.]
18...Nxe6= 19.a4 b5 20.Qb3 Qd7 21.axb5 axb5 22.Rxa8 Rxa8 23.Qd5 Rb8 24.Ra1 Ne7 25.Qb3 Kh7 26.Ra6 c6 0.81/22
[26...c5= 0.08/22 keeps the balance.]

(Diagram)



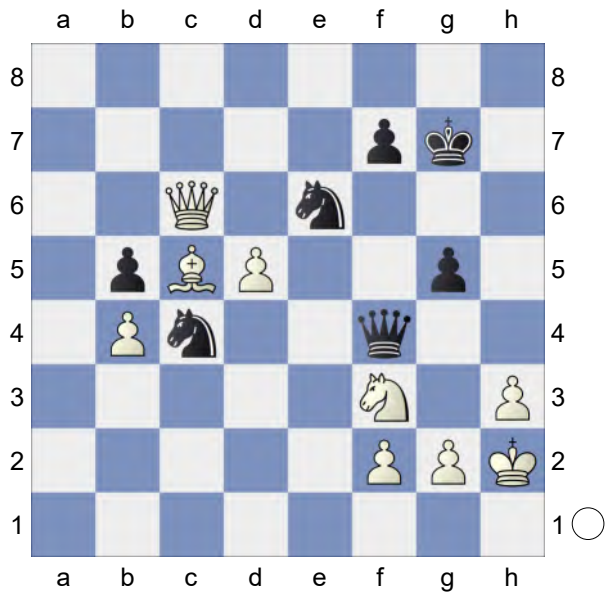
27.d4!± White has more active pieces. **27...Nc7**
[27...exd4 28.Nxd4]
28.Ra1 exd4 29.cxd4 Kg8 30.e5 dxe5 31.Nxe5 Bxe5? 3.90/27
[31...Qe6± 0.57/23 32.Qxe6 fxe6 *(32...Nxe6 33.Nxc6 Re8 34.Nxe7+* Deflection *Rxe7 35.Ra8+ Kh7 36.d5+-)*]
32.Bxe5+- Ra8 Black is weak on the dark squares **33.Rxa8+** 0.91/27
[33.Ra5!+- 3.53/26 and the rest is easy.]
33...Nxa8± 34.Ng4 Nd5 35.Nxh6+ Kf8 36.Ng4 Nab6! 37.Qg3↑ White is more active. **37...Qd8** Dodges Qh4 **38.Bd6+ Kg7 39.Bc5 Nc4** Dodges Qe5+ **40.Ne5 Qf6** 1.31/26
[40...Qe8± 0.37/24]
41.Qg4 Strongly threatening Qc8. **41...Nc3 42.Nf3 Ne2+?** 3.06/29
[42...Nd6± 1.18/24 was called for.]
43.Kf1!+- Nf4

(Diagram)



44.Qc8! Ne6 Inhibits Qf8+. **45.Qxc6 Qf4** White must now prevent ...Qc1+. **46.Kg1**
[46.Qxb5 Qc1+ 47.Ne1 Nd2+ 48.Kg1 Qxe1+ 49.Kh2 Qxf2 50.Qc6 Nxc5 *(50...Nxd4? 51.Bxd4+ Qxd4 52.Qc5-+; 50...Nf1+? 51.Kh1-+)* 51.Qd5 Nce4 *(51...Nf1+ 52.Kh1)* 52.Qe5+ Kh7]
46...g5? 6.31/24
[46...Qc1+ 3.90/24 47.Kh2 Qf4+ 48.Kh1 Qc1+ 49.Ng1 Qf1]
47.d5 White is clearly winning.
[Weaker is 47.Qxb5 Qc1+ 48.Kh2 g4+-]
47...Qc1+ 48.Kh2 Qf4+

(Diagram)

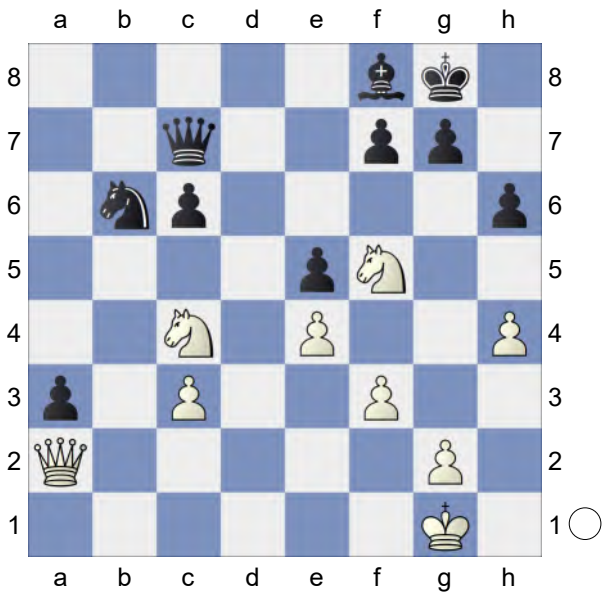


49.Kh1! Qe4 50.Qxb5 g4 51.hxg4 Qh7+ 52.Kg1 Qb1+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.56 **53.Kh2**
1-0

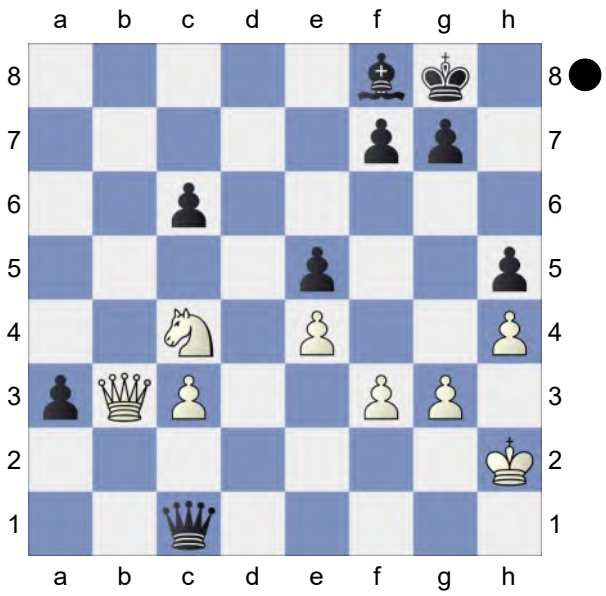
172 **C65**
□ **Saric,Ivan** **2647**
■ **Dominguez Perez,Leinier** **2745**
AI Cup Div 2 W rapid (1.2) 25.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 dxe4 8.dxe4** The position is equal. **8...a5 9.Qc2** 9.a4 is the modern continuation. 9.a4 ist die moderne Fortsetzung. **9...Qe7 10.a4 Rd8!?** Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **11.h3 Nb8 12.Re1 h6 13.Nf1 c6 14.Bc4 Re8N** An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung. 'N!?'
[Vorgänger: 14...Na6 15.Ng3 Qc7 16.Ba2 *(16.Nh4 Bf8 17.Qe2 Nc5 18.Qf3 Nh7 19.Nhf5 Be6 20.Bxe6 Nxe6 21.Be3 Kh8 22.Qg4 Nf6 23.Qh4 Ng8 24.Rad1 Rxd1 25.Rxd1 Rd8 26.Rxd8 Nxd8 27.Qg4 Ne6 28.Qd1 Bc5 29.Bxc5 Nxc5 30.b4 axb4* 8.?h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2603)-Behrmann (2553) Baku 2023 Steinitz/Chigorin [John Watson] 1-0 (62)) 16...b5 17.Qe2 Rb8 18.Nh4 Bf8! 19.Qf3 bxa4 20.Bxh6 Nc5 ½-½ Nepomniachtchi,I (2795)-Ding,L (2788) World-ch Nepomniachtchi-Ding 2023 (9)]
15.Ng3 Qc7 16.Nh4 Be6 17.Bxe6 Rxe6 18.Nhf5 Na6 19.Qe2 Rd8 20.Qf3 Bf8 21.h4
[21.Be3 seems wilder. Kh7 22.Qe2 g6 23.Nh4]
21...Nc5 22.Be3 b5 23.Bxc5 Bxc5 24.Red1 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 bxa4 White is on the road to losing. **26.Rd2** -1.37/22
[⌓26.Nh5 -0.85/21 Ne8 27.Nhg3]
26...a3∓ 27.bxa3 Bxa3 28.Qd1 Bf8 29.Ne3 -2.12/22
[29.Ra2∓ -1.36/19]
29...Rd6-+ 30.Nc4 -3.06/23
[30.Rxd6 -1.84/22 was necessary. Qxd6 31.Qxd6 Bxd6 32.Nc2]
30...Rxd2 31.Qxd2 a4 32.Qa2 a3 33.f3 Nd7 34.Nf5 Nb6

(Diagram)



Threatens to win with ...Nxc4. **35.Nfe3** -6.98/25
[⌓35.Nxa3 -4.67/21 Qa7 36.Kh2]
35...Nxc4 36.Nxc4 Qd8 37.g3 Qd1+ 38.Kg2 Qc1 ...Bc5 is the strong threat. **39.Qb3 h5** (→ ...Bc5) **40.Kh2** -#10/22
[40.Kf2-+ -5.10/24]



40...Bc5 Black mates. **41.g4 Qg1+ 42.Kh3 Qf1+ 43.Kg3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/Black=0.23 (precise) **0-1**

173 **C67**
□ **Bjerre,Jonas Buhl** **2650**
■ **Dardha,Daniel** **2604**
London TechM GCL rapid (8.3) 09.10.24
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4 Be7 7.Nc3** Prevents e4. **7...a6!** is currently scoring better than 7...0-0. wohl besser als 7...0-0. is currently scoring better than 7...0-0. wohl besser als 7...0-0. **8.Bf1** The position is equal. **8...e4 9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re1 Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.c3N**
[13.Be2 0-0 14.d4 Re8 15.Ne5 Bxe2 16.Rxe2 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qd7 18.Qd3 b5 *(18...Rad8 19.b3 Qe6 20.Bd2 Qg6 21.f4 f5 22.b4 Qe6 23.c3 c5 24.bxc5 Bxc5+ 25.Be3 Bxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Rc8 27.Rb1 Qc6 28.Qd4 b5 29.axb5 axb5 30.Kh2 Red8 31.Re3 Qc4 32.Rg3 Qxd4 33.cxd4* Aronian,L (2789)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2751) Chess.com INT 2017 CBM 183 [Kuzmin,Alexey] 1-0 (48) *)* 19.Bf4 bxa4 20.Rd2 Qb5 21.Qd4 c6 22.Be3 Rab8 23.c3 a3 24.bxa3 Qa5 25.Rd3 Bf8 26.a4 Rb3 27.h4 Qc7 Bulmaga,I (2423)-Injac,T (2426) Durres 2023 0-1 (70) 28.Rad1 Qxe5 29.Qa7 Rxc3 30.Rxc3 Qxc3 31.Rc1 Qd3 32.Rxc6 Qd1+ 33.Kh2 Qxa4 34.Rxa6 Qxh4+ 35.Kg1 Qg4 36.Qd4 Qxd4 37.Bxd4 f6 38.f3 h5 39.Ra5 Rd8 40.Kf2 Kf7 41.Bb6 Rd7 42.Ke3 Rb7 Bulmaga,I (2416)-Rakotomaharo,F (2463) Purtichju 2023 ½-½ (70)]
13...d4 14.d3 0-0 15.Bd2 Bf6 16.c4 a5 Against b4 **17.g4 Bg6 18.Qb3! Qd7N**

[18...Rb8 0.68/20 18...h6 0.34 19.Qb5 Qd6 20.Bxa5 Nxa5 21.Qxa5 Qf4 22.Kg2! h5 1.67/21 *(22...b6± 1.29/24 23.Qd2 Qxd2 24.Nxd2 c5)* 23.Qd2!+- Qd6 24.b4 hxg4 25.hxg4 1-0 Narva,M (2380)-Injac,T (2293) Belt and Road Shanxi 5th 2024 (3) 1-0 Narva,M (2380)-Injac,T (2293) Belt and Road Shanxi 5th 2024 (3)]

19.Qb5

[19.Qxb7? Rab8 20.Qb5 *(20.Qa6? Rb6-+)* 20...Rxb5-+]

19...h6 20.Bf4 0.26/23

[20.Qxb7? Rab8 21.Qa6 Rb6-+]

[20.c5± 0.59/21]

20...Qc8= 21.Ne5 -0.33/21

[White should try 21.c5± 0.32/22]

21...Bxe5!∓ 22.Bxe5 f5 23.Qd5+ -1.29/21

[23.Bg2!∓ -0.38/22]

23...Kh7!∓ 24.Qg2 f4 0.00/24 Against Qg3

[24...fxg4∓ -1.26/22 25.Qxg4 Qxg4+ 26.hxg4 Nxe5 27.Rxe5 b6]

25.h4 -0.61/23

[25.Qh2!= 0.00/24]

25...f3? 1.33/22

[25...Nxe5 26.Rxe5 Kh8 27.h5±]

[25...Kh8!∓ -0.61/23 stays ahead.]

26.Qg3± Nb4 27.h5 0.30/22

[27.Rad1± 1.28/19]

27...Bxd3= 28.Bxd4 This bishop pair is nice. **28...Rf7! 29.g5** -0.74/22

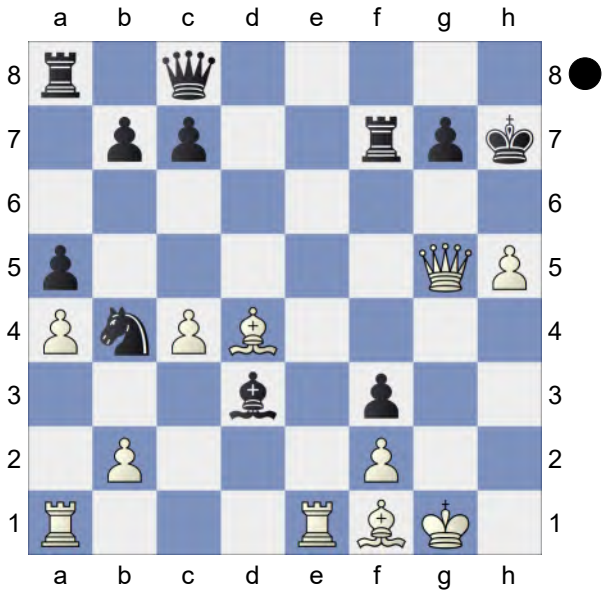
[29.Re5= 0.09/24]

29...hxg5∓ 30.Qxg5? -2.60/24

[30.Bxd3+? Nxd3 31.Re4 *(31.Qxg5? Nf4-+)* 31...Nf4-+]

[30.Re5∓ -1.00/22 was called for. Bxf1 31.Rxf1]

(Diagram)



30...Qf5? 0.00/30 Dancing on a razor blade.

[30...Bxf1!-+ -2.60/24 31.Rxf1 Nd3]

31.Re5= Qxg5+ 32.Rxg5 Re8 And now ...Re4 would win. **33.Kh2**

[Much worse is 33.Rxa5 Re4 34.Be3 Bxc4 35.Bxc4 Rxc4∓]

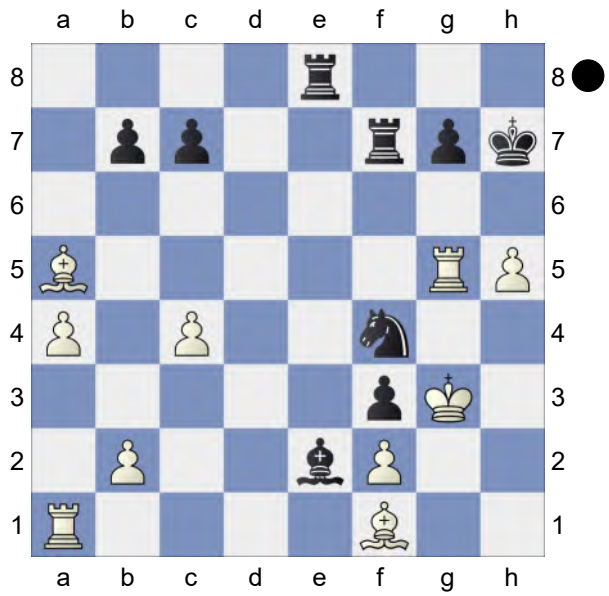
33...Be2 Hoping for ...Nc2. **34.Bc3 Nd3 35.Kg3 Nf4**

[Don't play 35...Re4 36.Bh3±]

36.Bxa5 -1.07/23

[36.Bh3= 0.14/27 remains equal. Bd3 37.Rxa5]

(Diagram)



36...Kh6 -0.12/25 0x0.00267b410c46dp-1022s more active pieces.
[36...Bxf1!∓ -1.07/23 37.Rxf1 Kh6]
37.Rg4 Nxh5+ 38.Kh4? -2.31/21
[38.Kh2= -0.18/22]
38...g5+? 0.00/32
[38...Nf6-+ -2.31/21 White must now prevent ...g5+. 39.Bd2+ Kh7]
39.Rxg5 Re4+ 40.Rg4 Rxg4+ 41.Kxg4 Threatens to win with Bd2+.
41...Rf4+ 42.Kh3 Rxc4 43.Bd2+ Kg6 44.Bxe2?? -2.67/21
[44.b3= -0.05/25 Rc2 45.Be3]
44...fxe2 Endgame KRB-KRN **45.Rg1+ Kf7?** -0.08/28
[Better is 45...Kf6-+ -2.09/22 aiming for ...Rc2. 46.Bh6 Kf5]
46.Re1 Rc2 47.Be3 Rxb2 With the idea ...Nf6. **48.Kg4 Nf6+ 49.Kf3 Nd5 50.Rxe2 Rxe2 51.Kxe2** KB-KN **51...Nc3+ 52.Kd3 Nxa4 53.Kc4 Ke6 54.Bd4 c6 55.Kb4 b5 56.f3 Kd5 57.Be3 Nb2 58.Kc3** -#20/28 Inhibits Nd3.
[58.f4= 0.00/31]
58...Nd1+ Black mates. **59.Kd2 Nxe3 60.Kxe3 b4 61.Kd3 c5 62.f4 c4+ 63.Kc2 Ke4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/Black=0.29 (precise)
0-1

174 **C65**
□ **Anton Guijarro,David** **2691**
■ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2695**
Bydgoszcz (4) 29.06.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Bg4 7.h3 Bh5** 7...Bxf3 is not played anymore. 7...Lxf3 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. **8.g4** The position is equal. **8...Nxg4 9.hxg4 Bxg4 10.Be3 Be7 11.Nbd2!?N** New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[Predecessor: 11.Kh1 f5 Hoping for ...fxe4. 12.Rg1! h5 aiming for ...fxe4. 13.Nc3 -0.63/21 (White should try *13.Qe2!*= 0.06/21) 13...f4∓ 14.Bd2 g5 15.Nb1 -0.94/20 (*15.Rb1*∓ -0.62/21) 15...Bc5 16.Bc3 Bxf2 17.Nbd2 1-0 Nakamura,H (2736)-Carlsen,M (2863) Lindores Abbey Final 8 rapid 2020 (2.21) Qe7 18.Qf1 Bxg1 19.Qxg1 Bxf3+ 20.Nxf3 g4 21.Nxe5 Rg8 22.Rf1 Qg5 23.Qd4 Qh4+ 24.Kg1 Qg3+ 25.Kh1 Qh3+ 26.Kg1 g3 27.Nf3 g2 28.Re1 Qxf3 29.Qe5+ Kd8 30.Qf6+ Ke8 31.Bb4 c5 32.Bxc5 Nakamura,H (2736)-Carlsen,M (2863) chess24.com (Int.-m2/1-rapid) 144/97 2020 [Perunovic, Milos] 1-0 (33)]
[11.Kg2 f5 12.Qe1 Bxf3+ 13.Kxf3 f4 14.Bd2 g5 15.Bc3 Qd6 16.Nd2 Qe6 17.Ke2 0-0-0 18.f3 h5 19.Nc4 Bf6 20.Qf2 Kb8 21.Rh1 g4 22.a3

Rdg8 23.Rag1 b6 24.b4 Rg5 25.Kd1 Kb7 Chernov,V (2659)-Mohandesi,S (2624) Hastings 2023 CBM 047 ext [John Watson] ½-½ (50)]

11...f5N 0.32/18

[11...Qc8= -0.03/20 12.Kh1 f5 13.Qe1 f4 14.Nxe5 fxe3 15.Qxe3 Bf6 Ch. 8 - Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6: 6.O-O]

12.exf5

[12.Qe1!?]

12...0-0 0.45/20

[12...Qc8= 0.13/20 deserves consideration.]

13.Qc1± Qd5 14.Nh2! Bh3 A strong pair of Bishops. **15.Ne4 Bxf1** 0.95/20 White stays focused until the end.

[15...a5± 0.50/18 might be stronger.]

16.Qxf1

[Much weaker is 16.Nxf1 Rxf5 17.Nfd2 Raf8±]

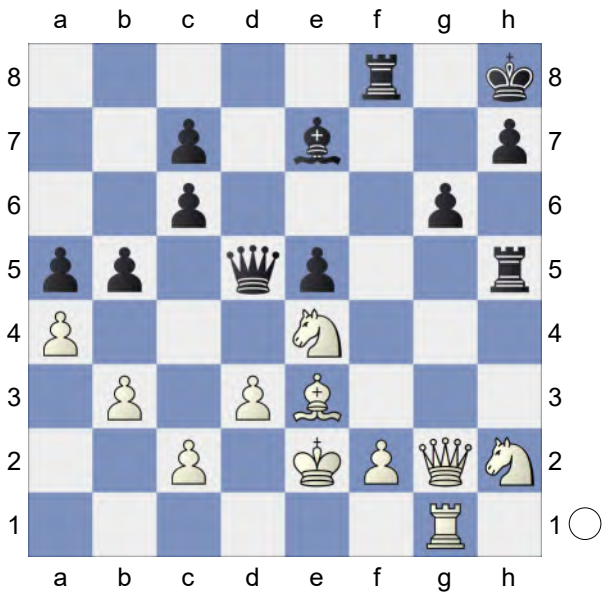
16...Rxf5 17.Qg2 Raf8 18.Kf1 White has strong compensation. &Bianco is more active. **18...a5 19.a4 Kh8 20.Ke2 g6** 1.45/20

[Better is 20...Qf7 1.08/18]

21.b3 b6 22.Rh1 Rh5 23.Rg1 b5 1.66/20

[23...Kg7± 1.30/18]

(Diagram)



24.Ra1!+- Bb4 1.87/22

[24...Qe6± 1.53/17 25.Ng4 b4]

25.Nf3 1.33/20

[25.Ng4+- 1.87/22]

25...Qe6 1.66/22

[25...Qd7± 1.33/20 26.Bg5 Qe6]

26.Nfg5 Qf5 2.17/24

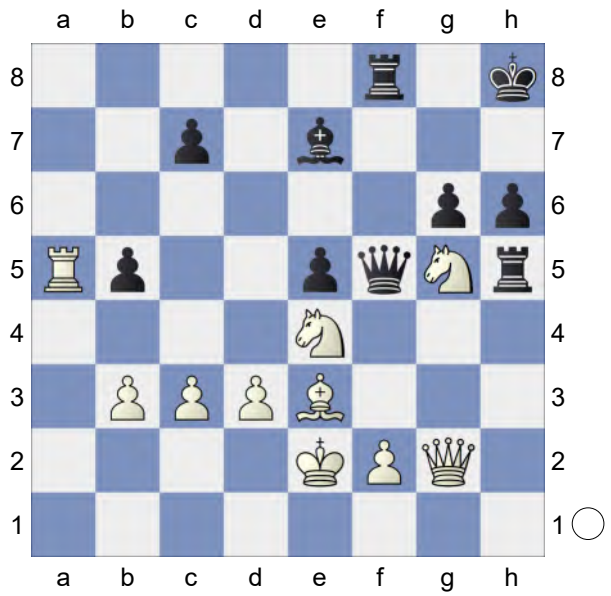
[26...Qd7± 1.59/21 was called for. 27.c3 Be7]

27.axb5

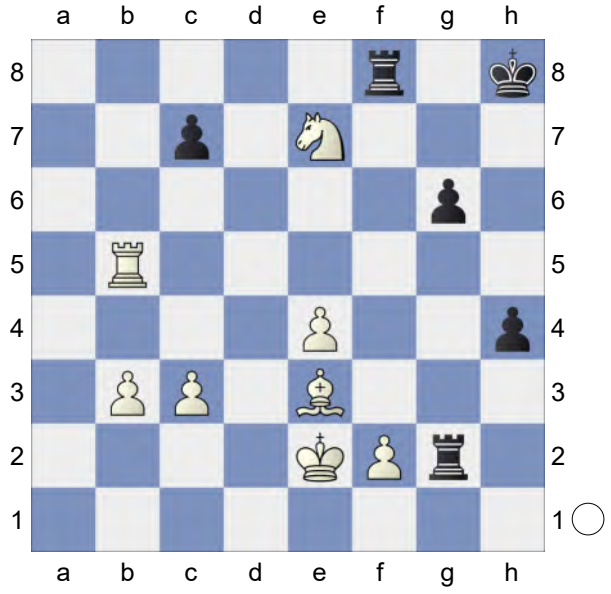
[Resist 27.c3 Bd6 28.axb5 cxb5 29.Rxa5 h6]

27...cxb5 28.c3 Deflection. Dancing on a razor blade. **28...Be7 29.Rxa5 h6**

(Diagram)



30.Ng3! Rxg5 31.Nxf5 Rxg2 32.Nxe7 h5 33.Rxb5 e4 4.60/24
[⌓33...Kg7 3.25/22 34.Kf1 Rg4 35.Rxe5 h4]
34.dxe4 h4



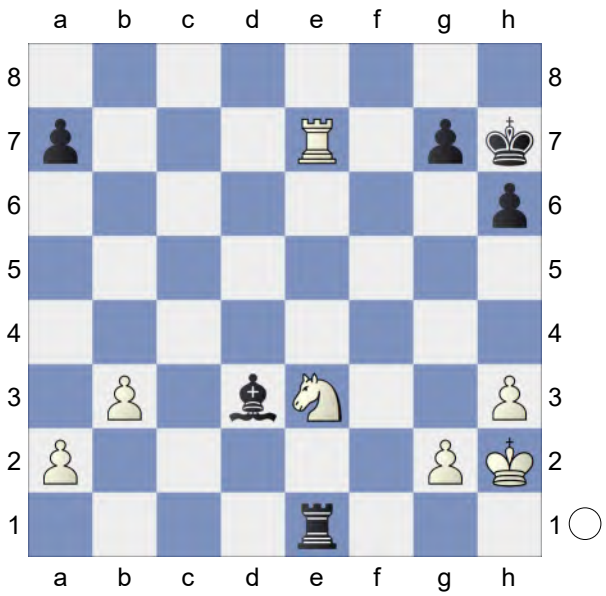
35.Nxg6+! Rxg6 Endgame KRR-KRB **36.Rh5+ Kg8 37.Rxh4 Kf7 38.Rh7+ Rg7 39.Rxg7+ Kxg7 40.f4 Kg6 41.b4 Kh5?** 9.32/25
[41...Rh8 3.95/22 42.f5+ Kf7]
42.Kf3 White is clearly winning. **42...c6 43.f5** Strongly threatening Kf4. **43...Rg8 44.e5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
1-0

175 **C65**
□ **Bjerre,Jonas Buhl** **2640**
■ **Maurizzi,Marc'Andria** **2581**
7th Prague Challengers (6.2) 04.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

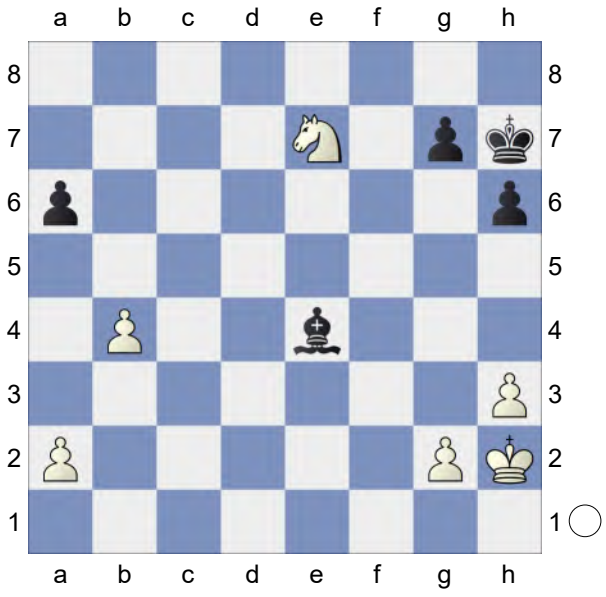
C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.Bxc6+**
[6.c3 0-0 7.Nbd2 Ne7 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bb6 10.b3 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Bd3 Bf5 13.Qe2 Nc6 14.Bb2 Nxd2 15.Qxd2 Be4 16.Be2 f6 17.b4 fxe5 18.dxe5 Kh8 19.b5 Ne7 20.Ng5 Ng6 1-0 Caruana,F (2805)-Grischuk,A (2781) Norway Masters blitz 3rd 2015 (7)]
[6.Re1 0-0 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.h3 Re8 9.Nbd2 Nd7 10.Nc4 Bb6 11.a4 a5 12.Nxb6 cxb6 13.d4 Qc7 14.Ra3 Nf8 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Nh4 Rd8 17.Qh5 f6 18.Nf5 Be6 19.Rg3 Ng6 20.h4 Bxf5 1-0 Carlsen,M (2835)-Naroditsky,D (2619) Bullet Chess Losers blitz 2023 (5.6)]
6...bxc6 7.h3 h6N
[7...Bb6 8.Nc3 h6 9.Ne2 Nh5 10.d4 f5 11.dxe5 fxe4 12.Nfd4 0-0 13.Be3 Qh4 14.Kh2 dxe5 15.Nxc6 Bxh3 16.gxh3 Rf3 17.Ng1 Bxe3 18.Nxf3 Qf4+ 19.Kg2 Rf8 20.Qd5+ Kh7 21.Ncxe5 Bb6 22.Rae1 ½-½ Wessendorf,T-2.c4 e5 Vilnius zt 1975 exf3+ 23.Nxf3 Rf5 24.Qe4 c6 25.Qxf4 Nxf4+ 26.Kh2 Bc7 27.Ng1 Nd3+ 28.Kg2 Rg5+ 29.Kf3 Nxe1+ 30.Rxe1 ½-½ Neumann,G-Anderssen, A Berlin m1 1864]
8.Nc3 0-0 9.Ne2 Re8 10.Ng3 d5

11.b3 The position is equal. **11...dxe4 12.dxe4 Qxd1 13.Rxd1 Nd7 14.Ne1 Nf8 15.Nd3 Bd6 16.Be3 Ne6 17.Nf5** White wants to play Nxd6. **17...c5** 0.57/23
[17...f6= 0.18/20]
18.Nxd6 cxd6 19.Nb2 Nd4 20.Rd2 Bb7 0.87/22
[20...Be6!= 0.26/21 keeps the balance.]
21.f3 0.37/20
[21.Nc4± 0.87/22]
21...f5± 22.Nc4! Rad8 23.c3 fxe4! 24.cxd4 cxd4
[24...exd4 seems wilder. 25.Bf4 e3 26.Bxe3 d5]
25.fxe4 dxe3 26.Rxd6 Bxe4 27.Re1 Bd5 Threatens to win with ...Bxc4.
[27...Rxd6? 28.Nxd6 Re6 29.Nxe4+-]
28.Rxd8 Rxd8 29.Nxe5 Endgame KRB-KRN **29...Bb7 30.Nc4!** Prevents Rd2.
[30.Rxe3 Rd2∓]
30...Ba6 31.Rxe3 Rd1+ 32.Kh2 0.10/24
[32.Kf2± 0.67/25]
32...Ra1 33.Re2 Rc1 0.63/24 Dodges Rc2
[33...Bxc4= 0.12/24 34.bxc4 Kf7]
34.Re8+ Kh7 35.Ne3! Black must now prevent Re7. **35...Bd3 36.Re7 Re1** 1.33/23
[36...a5± 0.59/21]

(Diagram)



37.Nd5!± Rxe7 38.Nxe7 KB-KN. White is a pawn up. Loses the game. **38...Be4** 3.16/26 Dodges Nc6
[38...a6± 0.90/24 might work better.]
39.b4+- a6 5.76/25
[39...Bc2 2.11/25 is more resistant. 40.Kg3 g5]

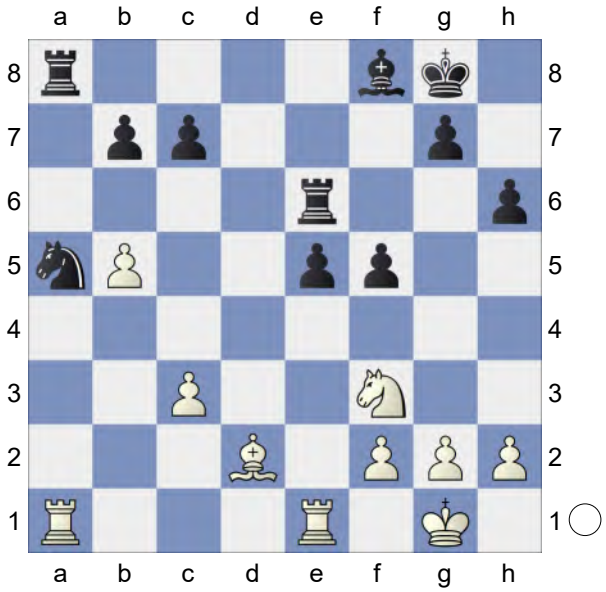


40.a4! White is clearly winning. **40...g5** 8.44/26
[⌓40...Bd3 5.06/27 41.Kg3 g5]
41.b5 axb5 42.axb5 Kg7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /

Black=0.53 **43.Nc8**
1-0

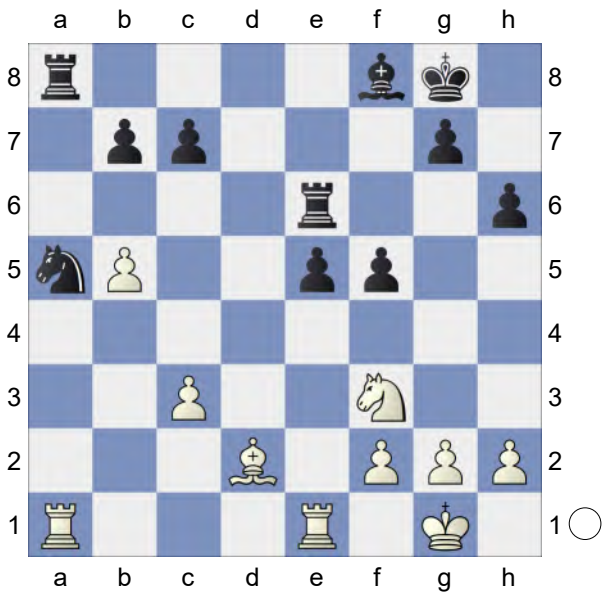
176 **C65**
□ **Esipenko,Andrey** **2703**
■ **Postny,Evgeny** **2600**
FRA-chT Top 16 GpA (1.3) 30.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 Re8 8.exd5**
[8.h3 a6 9.Ba4 b5 10.Bb3 h6 11.Re1 Bb6 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.d4 Nf4 14.Nf1 Ng6 15.dxe5 Qxd1 16.Rxd1 Ncxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Be3 c5 19.Ng3 Rb8 20.Bc2 c4 21.Bxb6 Rxb6 22.Rd4 g6 Klenburg,M (2325)-Indjic,A (2641) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (47)]
8...a6 9.Bc4
[9.Bxc6 bxc6 10.Ne4 Nxe4 11.dxe4 cxd5 12.Qxd5 Qxd5 13.exd5 e4 14.Nd2 e3 15.fxe3 Bxe3+ 16.Kh1 Bg4 17.Nf3 Bxc1 18.Raxc1 Re2 19.b4 Bxf3 20.Rxf3 Rxa2 21.Kg1 Rd2 22.c4 Rb8 23.b5 axb5 Peglau,M (2760)-C 06/30 (2764) Russia 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Kozlov] ½-½ (31)]
9...Nxd5N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[Vorgänger: 9...Na5 10.b4 *(10.Nb3 Nxc4 11.dxc4 Ba7 12.Bg5 b5 13.Nbd2 h6 14.Bh4 bxc4 15.Nxc4 Qxd5 16.Qxd5 Nxd5 17.Ncxe5 g5 18.Bg3 f5* 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 [GM Michael Roiz]*)* 10...Nxc4 11.Nxc4 Ba7 12.Bg5 Qxd5 Strongly threatening ...e4. 13.Bxf6 gxf6 14.Ne3 Qc6 *(14...Bxe3!? 15.fxe3 a5=)* 15.d4 exd4 16.cxd4 0-1 Karthikeyan,M (2613)-Robson,R (2682) Abu Dhabi Masters 28th 2022 (4)]
10.Ne4 Be7 11.Re1 0.28/20
[11.Nfg5± 0.61/20 Bxg5 12.Bxg5]
11...h6= 12.a4 Be6 13.b4 Bf8 14.Bd2 Nf6 15.Qe2 Bxc4 16.dxc4 Nxe4 17.Qxe4 Qc8 18.a5 f5 19.Qd5+ Qe6 20.Qxe6+ 0.42/24
[20.b5= 0.01/23 might be stronger. axb5 21.Qxe6+ Rxe6 22.cxb5 Nxa5



23.Bf4! *(23.Nxe5 Rd8=; 23.Rxe5 Rxe5 24.Nxe5 Re8∓)*]
20...Rxe6± 21.b5 axb5 22.cxb5 Nxa5

(Diagram)



23.Bf4! Bd6 24.Bxe5 Bxe5 25.Rxe5 Rxe5 26.Nxe5= Endgame KRN-KRN **26...Rd8 27.h4 Nb3** The position is equal. **28.Ra4 Nc5 29.Rf4 Ne4** And now ...Rd5 would win. **30.c4** Against Rd5 **30...Nd6 31.Rd4 Nf7 32.Nd7 Nd6 33.Ne5 Nf7 34.Nd7 Nd6 35.Ne5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless) **½-½**

177 **C67**
□ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2693**
■ **Robson,Ray** **2689**
5th Prague Masters 2023 (4.2) 24.06.23
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 CC HeaderStart CC Game: 'The file that matters' CCHeaderEnd CCWhen I played through the following game, I had the feeling that I'd seen a great game, but I didn't understand why. After quite a bit of analysis, I think I do ! The opening is a solid anti-Berlin variation with a symmetrical pawn structure and only the faintest initiative for White. Between moves 25 and 34, AlphaZero unbalances the position: White gains an outpost for its knight on c5, control of the open e-file, an invasion square on e6 and weak black queenside pawns on a5 and c6. However AlphaZero slowly reels White in, first creating a dark- square weakness on White's kingside and then converting this weakness into an advanced pawn on g3 with 41... hxg3. Stockfish lets it all happen, evaluating the position before and after with exactly the same value (0.00) . The g3-pawn restricts the movement of the white king and AlphaZero uses this to stretch White's position to breaking point by opening an extra file - the a-file - and targeting White's queenside pawns, after which White's position eventually collapses. Game themes: 1. Avoiding the automatic occupation of an open file 2. Using a rook's pawn to weaken the opponent's king's position 3. Advanced bishop outpost 4. Improving the position of the king before the next wave of attack **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** The position is equal. **13.c3 d5 14.Nd2**

[14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Qe2 c6 17.Re1 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nf3 Ng7 20.Be5 Ne6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5 Ng7 25.Qxe8+ Nxe8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8 28.Nxe8 Kxe8 Carlsen,M (2870)-Anand,V (2775) (m/8) 119/(106) 2013]

14...Bf5 15.Qe3

[15.Qd1 c6 16.Qb3 Qb6 17.Re1 g6 18.Qa3 Ng7 19.Nf3 Ne6 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Ng7 22.Qe7 Be6

23.b4 Nf5 24.Qf6 Qd8 25.Qxd8+ Rxd8 26.a4 Re8 27.a5 f6 28.Nd3 Kf7 29.Nc5 Bc8 ½-½ Mertens,G (2385)-Heinbuch,D (2340) 4.e3 f5 5. g4 (9)]

15...c6N

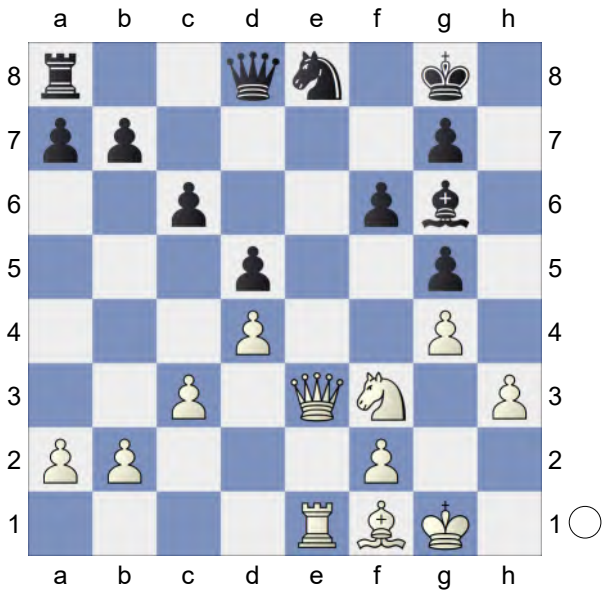
[15...Qd7]

[15...Nd6 16.Nf3 a5 17.Re1 c6 18.a4 h6 19.Qc1 Be7 20.b3 Ne8 21.Qe3 Bf8 22.Bd3 Qf6 23.Ne5 Nd6 24.f3 Bxd3 25.Nxd3 h5 26.Qd2 b5 27.Qd1 Rc8 28.Be5 Qg5 29.Bf4 Qf6 30.Be5 Part III: Themes in AlphaZero-Stockfish 8 vs. AlphaZero]

16.Re1 h6 17.h3 Bg5 18.g4 Bg6 0.61/24

[18...Bh7= 0.20/21 is superior.]

19.Bxg5± hxg5 20.Nf3 f6

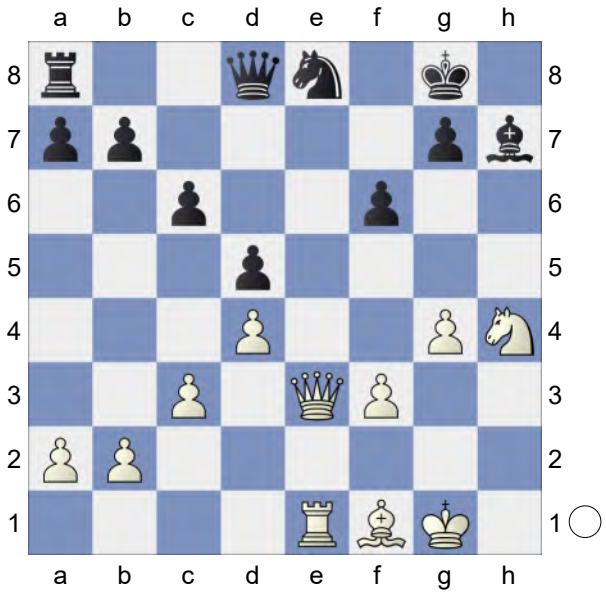


21.h4! White is more active. **21...gxh4 22.Nxh4** This move loses the game for Black. **22...Be4** 2.57/23

[22...Bh7± 0.74/23]

23.f3+- Bh7

(Diagram)



24.Bd3! Bxd3 25.Qxd3 Rc8? 6.03/28

[25...Nd6 2.69/24 26.Ng6 Nf7 27.Ne7+ Kh8 28.Ng6+ Kg8]

26.Qf5 White is clearly winning. **26...Nd6 27.Qe6+ Nf7 28.Ng6 Rb8 29.Kg2 Qd6 30.Qf5 Nh6 31.Qh5 a5 32.f4 Kh7 33.f5 Kg8 34.Re6 Qc7 35.Ne7+ Kf8 36.g5** White wants to mate with Ng6+. **36...Ng8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=1.18

37.Qh8

1-0

178 **C65**

□ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2909**

■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2773**

Wch Blitz Almaty (10) 29.12.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**

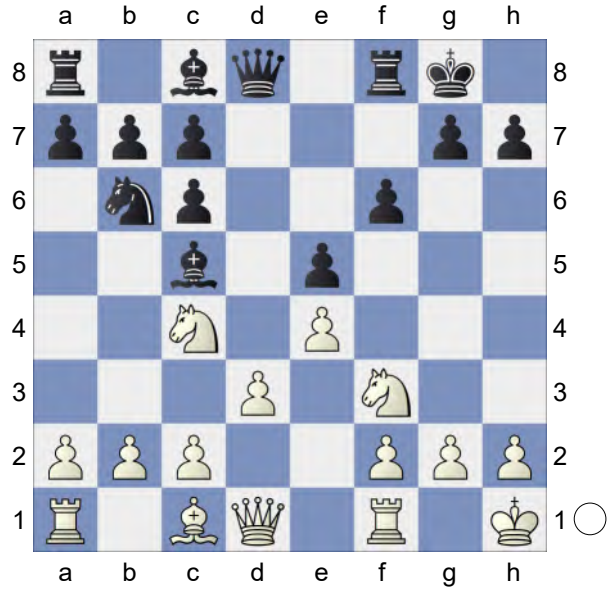
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc4 f6 9.Kh1 Nb6N

[Data server:: 9...a5 10.a4 *(10.Nh4*

Nb6 11.Be3 Bd4 12.Nxb6 cxb6 13.Qc1 Be6 14.f4 exf4 15.Bxd4 Qxd4 16.Rxf4 c5 17.Rf1 a4 18.Nf3 Qd6 19.Qe3 b5 20.h3 b4 21.b3 b6 Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence (2585)-5.♗c6 dc6 6.0-0 ♘d7 (2615) Survey 2018 *)* 10...Nb6 and ...Nxc4 would now be decisive 11.Be3 Bxe3 12.Nxe3 Be6 13.Ng1 Qd4 14.b3 Nd7 15.Ne2 Qc5 1-0 (108) Giri,A (2764)-Lysyj,I (2593) Chess.com INT 2020]

[9...Re8 10.Ne3 Nf8 11.Rg1 Bxe3 12.Bxe3 Bg4 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Ne6 15.Qe2 c5 16.a4 a5 17.b3 b6 18.Raf1 Qd6 19.Qd2 Rad8 20.f4 exf4 21.Bxf4 Nxf4 22.Rxf4 Re5 23.Rgf1 Qe6 24.Qf2 1-0 Nakamura,H (2768)-Duda,J (2729) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Jan Late blitz 2023 (11)]



An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung. **10.Ne3 Be6 11.Rg1 Kh8** 0.34/21

[11...Qd7= -0.14/20]

12.g4± a5 13.Qe2 0.26/19

[13.Bd2± 0.62/20]

13...a4 0.71/20

[13...Qd7= 0.26/19]

14.Nf5 Bd6 1.04/20

[14...Nc8± 0.49/19]

15.Rg3 0.51/19

[15.Bd2± 1.04/20]

15...g6 1.10/18

[15...Nc8!± 0.51/19]

16.Bh6 Rf7 1.18/19 Prevents Bg7+

[16...Rg8 0.78/19]

17.Nxd6 -0.08/22

[17.Rag1± 1.18/19]

17...cxd6= 18.d4 Nd7 0.92/21

[18...exd4= -0.01/19 remains equal. 19.Nxd4 Bc4]

19.c4 0.53/20

[19.Rd1± 0.92/21]

19...exd4± 20.Nxd4 Qe7 21.Bd2 -0.03/24 White has more active pieces.

[21.Rd1± 1.07/20]

21...Ne5= 22.Rc1 Bxc4

[22...Nxc4 23.Rxc4 Bxc4 24.Qxc4 Qxe4+ 25.Kg1 Kg8]

23.Rxc4 Nxc4 24.Qxc4 Qxe4+ 25.f3 -0.49/26

[25.Kg1!= 0.01/23 Kg8 26.Qd3]

25...Qe7 0.18/26

[25...d5!∓ -0.49/26]

26.Rg1 White has compensation. **26...d5 27.Qd3 Re8 28.Re1 Qd7** Black is weak on the dark squares **29.Qc3** -1.44/23

[29.Rc1± 0.38/25 stays ahead.]

29...Kg8 0.01/25

[29...Rxe1+∓ -1.44/23 30.Bxe1 Qe7]

30.b4 axb3 31.axb3 Rfe7 32.Rxe7 Qxe7 33.b4 Qe5 34.Kg2 Rc8 0.49/25

[Black should play 34...Ra8= -0.01/26]

35.Qc5 -0.40/25

[35.Be1!± 0.49/25]

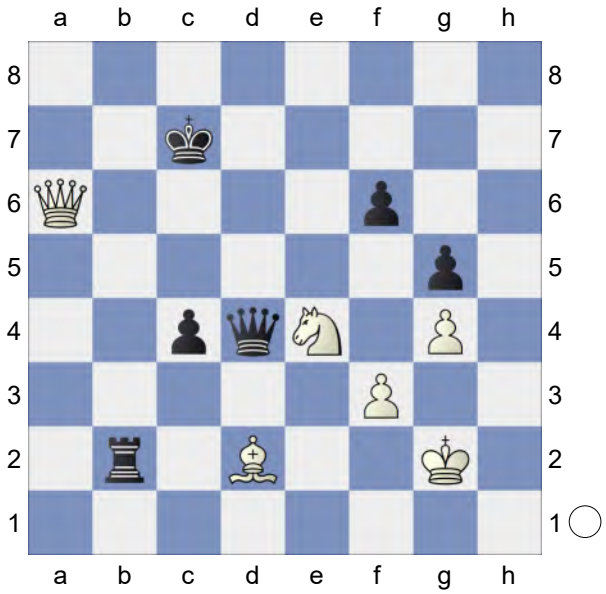
35...Kf7 0.01/25

[35...h5∓ -0.40/25 36.gxh5 Ra8]

36.h4 Ra8 37.Qc3! Ra2 38.Qd3?

-6.91/26
[38.Kh3∓ -0.42/22]
38...Qd6? -0.01/23
[38...Qf4-+ -6.91/26 39.Nb3 Rb2 *(39...Qxb4? 40.Kg3-+)*]
39.Ne2 b6 40.h5 c5 41.hxg6+ hxg6 42.bxc5 bxc5 43.Nc3! Ra3
[43...c4!? 44.Qd4□ *(44.Qxd5+ Qxd5* Remove Defender *45.Nxd5 Rxd2+ 46.Kg3 Rxd5 47.Kf4 c3 48.Ke4 Rd1 49.f4 c2 50.f5 g5 51.Kf3 c1Q 52.Kg2 Qc2+ 53.Kf3 Rd3+ 54.Ke4 Qe2#)* 44...Rb2=]
44.Qb1
[44.Qb5 is more complex. Qe5 45.Qb7+ Ke6 46.Qc6+]
44...Qc6 Inhibits Qb7+. **45.Qh1 g5 46.Qh7+ Ke8?** 6.34/26
[46...Ke6= 0.21/23]
47.Qg8++- Kd7 48.Nxd5
[48.Qxd5+ Qxd5 49.Nxd5 Ke6±]
48...Qe6 (→ ...Qe2+) **49.Qh7+ Kc6 50.Nc3** Prevents Qe2+ **50...Rb3 51.Qd3** Threatens to win with Qa6+. **51...c4** 6.10/24
[⌓51...Rb2 3.93/24 52.Ne4 Qe5]
52.Qc2 Qe5 53.Ne4 Qd4 54.Qa2 0.77/22
[54.Bc3+- 5.82/23 is the precise move to win. Qe3 55.Qa2 *(55.Bxf6 Qxf3+ 56.Kg1 Qxg4+ 57.Qg2 Qd1+ 58.Kh2 Re3∓; 55.Kg3 Qg1+ 56.Qg2 Qe3=)*]
54...Rb2± 55.Qa6+ 0.01/24
[55.Qa4+!± 0.47/27 Kb6 56.Kh3]
55...Kc7? 3.58/26
[55...Kd7!= 0.01/24 and Black is okay. 56.Kh3 *(56.Nxf6+ Ke7∓)* 56...Rxd2 57.Qb5+ Kc8 58.Nxd2 *(58.Qe8+ Kc7=)* 58...Qxd2]

(Diagram)

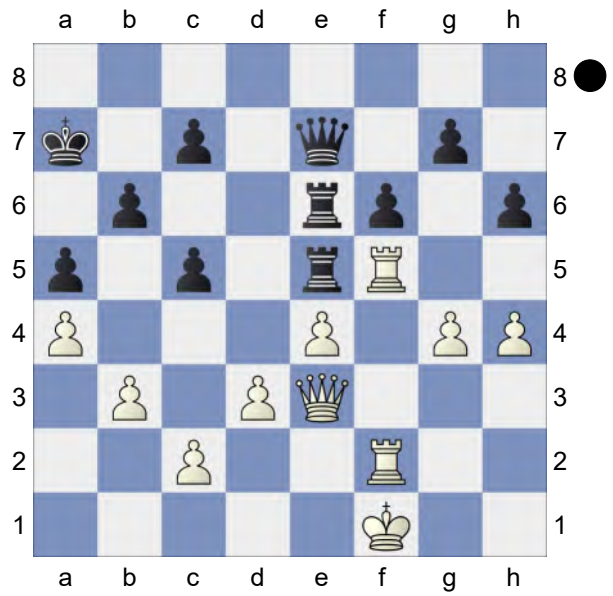


56.Qa5+? 0.01/25
[56.Qxf6? Rxd2+ 57.Kh3 Qxf6 58.Nxf6 c3-+]
[Only move: 56.Kh3!+- 3.58/26]
56...Kb7 0.42/30
[56...Kb8= 0.01/25 deserves consideration.]
57.Kh3± Some like it hot **57...Rb1 58.Ng3** -0.01/25 Against Rh1+
[White should try 58.Qc5± 0.77/26 Qxc5 59.Nxc5+ Kc6 60.Ne4]
58...Rb3 59.Bb4 Rxf3 60.Qb5+ The position is equal. **60...Qb6!**
[60...Kc7 61.Ba5+ Kd6 62.Qa6+ Ke7 63.Bb4+ Kf7 64.Qb7+ Kg8 65.Qa8+ *(65.Qxf3 Qd8+-)* 65...Kg7 66.Qxf3+-]
61.Qd7+ Qc7 62.Qb5+ Qb6 63.Qd7+ Qc7 64.Qb5+ Qb6 65.Qxc4 Qc6 66.Qxc6+ Kxc6 What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.60/Black=0.53 **67.Bf8**
½-½

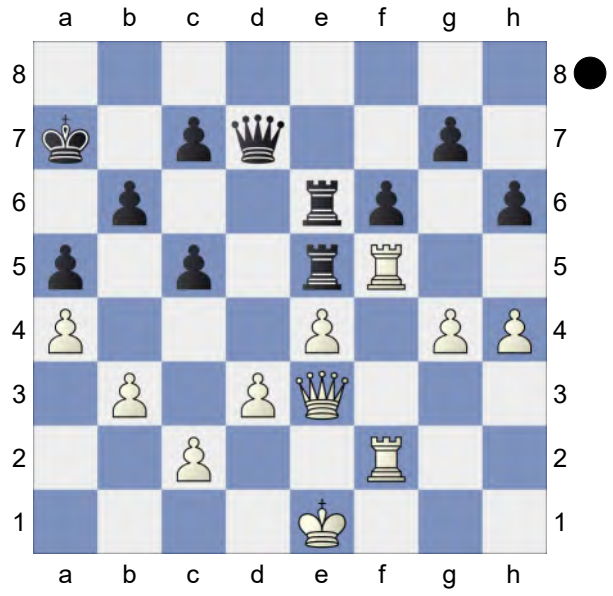
179 **C65**
□ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2768**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2729**
Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Jan Late bl..
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Nd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc4** The position is equal. **8...f6**
[8...Re8 9.Kh1 *(9.Bg5 f6 10.Be3 Bf8 11.Nh4 a5 12.Nf5 Nc5 13.Qg4 Bxf5 14.exf5 e4 15.d4 Na4 16.Nd2 c5 17.dxc5 Nxc5 18.Rad1 Qe7 19.Bxc5 Qxc5 20.Nxe4 Qc6 21.f3 Rad8 22.c3 Kh8 23.Kh1 Qc4* 9.f3 c6 10.?b3_68180 (2611)-5 Bg2 0-0 6 0-0 dxc4 Intro (2408) Gauthier/ Tactics [John Watson] 0-1 (33)*)* 9...a5 10.a4 b6 11.g3 Nf8 12.Ncxe5 f6 13.d4 Bd6 14.Nxc6 Qd7 15.d5 Rxe4 16.Nd2 Re8 Caruana,F (2772)-Karjakin,S (2786) Zug 2013 Informant 117 [Tadic,Br]]
9.Kh1!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
9...Re8
[9...Nb6 White must now prevent ... Nxc4. 10.Ne3 Be6 11.Rg1 Kh8 12.g4 a5 13.Qe2 a4 14.Nf5 Bd6 15.Rg3 g6 16.Bh6 ½-½ (67) Nakamura,H (2909)-Duda,J (2773) Almaty 2022]
10.Ne3!N 'N!' A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung. A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 10.Nh4 Nf8 11.Be3 Bd6 12.g3 Bh3 13.Rg1 Threatens to win with g4. Be6 14.Nxd6 cxd6 15.f4 f5 0.61/20 *(15...d5*= 0.01/20 *)* 16.Nxf5± Bxf5 17.exf5 exf4 18.Bxf4 ½-½ (49) Shevchenko,K (2654)-Mekhitarian,K (2542) Chennai 2022]
10...Nf8 11.Rg1 Bxe3 12.Bxe3 Bg4 13.h3 Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Ne6 15.Qe2 c5 16.a4 a5 17.b3 b6 18.Raf1 Qd6 19.Qd2 Rad8 20.f4 exf4 21.Bxf4 Nxf4 22.Rxf4 -0.35/25
[22.Qxf4= -0.02/25 Qxf4 23.Rxf4]
22...Re5 -0.01/24
[22...c4∓ -0.35/25 23.bxc4 Qa3]
23.Rgf1= Qe6 24.Qf2 Kh8 25.Rf3 h6 26.Kg1 Rd7 27.Qh4 And now Rxf6! would win. **27...Kh7 28.Qf2 Qd6 29.Kh1 Qe6 30.Rf4 Rg5 31.Qe3 Re5 32.g4 Re7 33.Rf5 Qd6 34.Qf2** -0.41/21
[34.Kg2= -0.10/22]
34...Kg8 -0.03/22
[34...c4∓ -0.41/21 35.bxc4 Qa3]
35.Kg2 -0.35/23
[35.Qe1= -0.03/22 deserves consideration.]
35...Kf7 0.01/23
[35...c4!∓ -0.35/23 36.bxc4 Qa3]
36.Qg3 Ke8 37.R5f3
[37.h4 is interesting. R7e6 38.g5 hxg5 *(38...fxg5 39.hxg5 Rxf5 40.Rxf5 Rg6)* 39.hxg5 fxg5 40.Rxe5 Qxe5 41.Rf5]
37...Kd7 38.Rf5 Kc6 39.h4 Kb7 40.R1f2 R7e6 41.Qf3 Ka7 42.Qe3 Qe7 43.Kf1 -0.75/23
[43.Qc1= -0.16/21]

(Diagram)

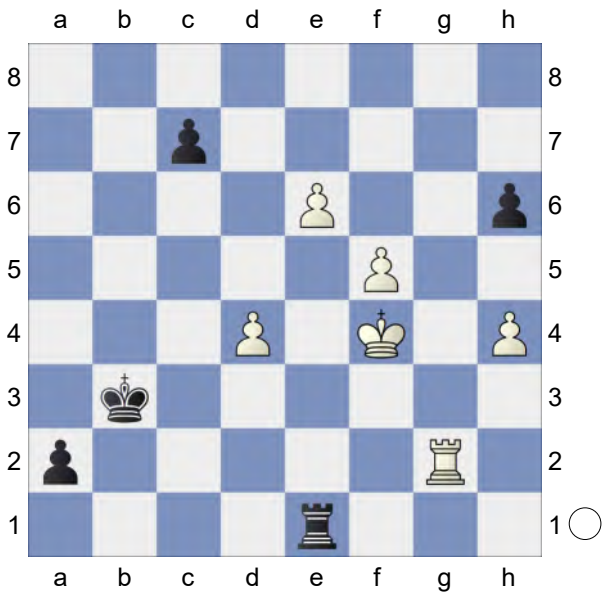


43...Qd7 -0.34/21
[43...c4!∓ -0.75/23]
44.Ke1 -0.71/22
[44.Rxe5∓ -0.34/21 is superior. Rxe5 45.Qf3]



44...c4!∓ 45.bxc4 Qxa4 46.Kf1 -1.37/22
[⌓46.Rxe5 -0.80/21 Rxe5 47.Kd1]
46...Qb4 47.Kg2 Rxf5 48.gxf5 Endgame KQR-KQR **48...Re5 49.Qg3** -1.10/23
[⌓49.d4 -0.78/23 Re8 50.Qd3]
49...Qe7 -0.55/21
[49...Re7∓ -1.10/23 50.Qf4 Qb2]
50.Kf3∓ Qd7! 51.Rg2 Re7 52.Qf4 Qd4 53.Qe3 Qe5 -0.16/23
[53...Qd6∓ -0.56/24]
54.d4= Qd6 55.c5⇄ White is not holding back **55...bxc5 56.dxc5 Qc6 57.Qd4 Re5** aiming for ...Rxf5+. **58.Kf4 Rxc5 59.Rxg7 a4** 0.39/24
[59...Qb6= -0.01/21 60.c3 Kb7]
60.Rg1 -0.01/21
[60.Rf7± 0.39/24]
60...Ka6 0.33/23
[60...Kb7= -0.01/21]
61.Qd3+ -0.01/22
[61.Rg6± 0.33/23 Qb5 62.Rxf6+ *(62.Qxf6+ Kb7±)* 62...Kb7 63.Rxh6]
61...Qb5 1.23/21
[61...Kb7= -0.01/22 remains equal.]
62.Rg6 -0.01/22
[Better is 62.Rb1± 1.23/21 Qxd3 63.cxd3]
62...Qxd3 1.04/18
[62...Rc6= -0.01/22]
63.cxd3 Strongly threatening e5! KR-KR
63...a3 64.Rxf6+ Kb5? 3.21/23
[64...Kb7± 1.40/25 65.Rg6 *(65.Rxh6? a2-+)* 65...Ra5]
65.Rg6 1.43/22
[Not 65.Rxh6? a2 66.Kg5 a1Q-+]
[65.Rf8+- 3.21/23 is more deadly.]
65...Rc1? 4.18/22 This move loses the game for Black.
[65...a2± 1.43/22 was worth a try. 66.Rg1 Kc6]
66.Rg2+- Kb4 67.e5 Kb3 68.e6 Re1 69.d4 d5 is the strong threat.
[Stronger than 69.f6 Rxe6 70.Kf5 Re1=]
69...a2? 5.96/20
[69...Kc4 3.62/18 70.f6 Rxe6]

(Diagram)



70.Rxa2! Kxa2 KR-KP **71.d5 Kb3 72.f6 Kc4 73.f7 Kxd5 74.e7 Rxe7 75.f8Q** KQ-KR **75...Re6 76.Qf7 Kd6 77.Kf5 Re5+ 78.Kg6 h5 79.Qf4** Intending Kf6 and mate. **79...Ke6 80.Qc4+ Kd6 81.Kf6** White wants to mate with Qf4. **81...Rd5 82.Qe4 c6** #1/6

[82...Kc5+- 4.91/24 83.Qf3 Kd6 84.Qa3+ Rc5 85.Qa6+ Kd5 86.Qd3+ Kc6]

83.Qe7# Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)

1-0

180 **C65**

□ **Sethuraman,SP.** **2603**

■ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2732**

Chessable Play In Match D2 rapid (1.1)

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 0-0 7.Re1 Bb6 8.a4!?** Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **8...Ne7 9.d4** The position is equal. **9...c6 10.Bf1**

[10.Bd3 Ng6 11.h3 Re8 12.Qc2 *(12.Nbd2 Bc7 13.Qc2 Be6 14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 dxe5 16.Nc4 Nh5 17.Bf1 Nf4 18.Kh2 h5 19.Be3 h4 20.a5 Qg5 21.b3 Qg6 22.Red1 Reb8 23.Kh1 Qg5 24.Nd6 Qf6 25.c4 Bxh3 26.Nf5 Bxf5* 1-0 Dai,C (2512)-Kong,X (2457) TCh-CHN Div A Finals 2024 (4.1)*)* 12...Bc7 13.Be3 h6 14.Nbd2 a5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.b4 Be6 17.Bc4 axb4 18.cxb4 Bb6 19.Bxb6 Qxb6 20.Qc3 Modestov,B (2665)-Vedrickas,T (2553) 154/(42) Belgrad 2022]

10...Ng6 11.Nbd2 h6N

[Vorgänger: 11...d5 0.54/20 11...Rf8-e8 0.12 12.a5 Bxa5 13.Nxe5 Nxe5 14.dxe5 Nxe4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Qh5 e5-e6! is the strong threat. Bc7 17.Rxe4 Qd7 ½-½ Grandelius,N (2663)-McShane,L (2647) Bundesliga 2122 2022 (7.1)]

[11...Re8 12.h3 d5 *(12...h6 13.Qc2 Be6 14.b4 a5 15.b5 Rc8 16.bxc6 bxc6 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 dxe5 19.Nc4* #10 29. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7. Re1,a-7...Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 c6*)* 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.exd5 Nxf3+ 15.Nxf3 Rxe1 16.Qxe1 Nxd5 *(16...Qxd5 17.c4 Qe4 18.a5 Qxe1 19.Nxe1 Bc5 20.Nd3 Bd4 21.Bf4* #13 29. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1,a-7... Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 c6*)* 17.a5 Bc7 18.Bg5 f6 19.Bd2 #11 29. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1,a-7...Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 c6]

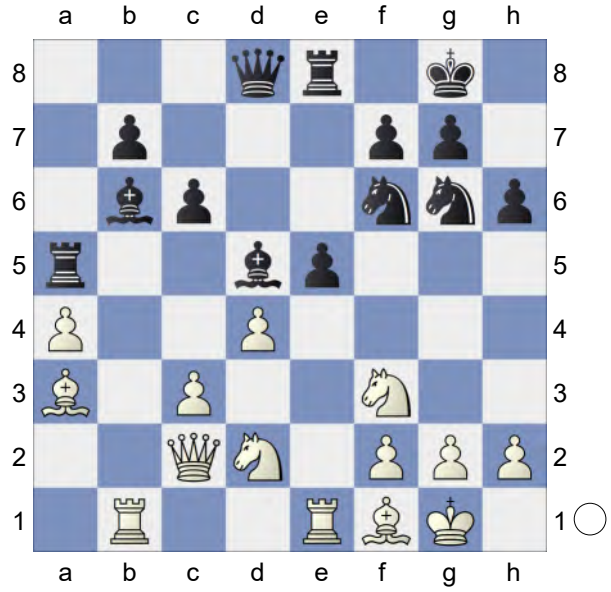
12.Qc2 Be6 13.b4 a5 14.bxa5 Rxa5 15.Ba3 Re8 16.Rab1 d5 17.exd5

[17.Nxe5 Nxe5 18.Bb4 *(18.dxe5 Ng4∓)* 18...Ng6 19.Bxa5 Bxa5=]

[17.dxe5 Nxe4 *(17...Ng4 18.Nd4∓)* 18.Nxe4 dxe4 19.Qxe4 Bd5∓]

17...Bxd5 1.21/21

[Black should try 17...cxd5± 0.36/19 18.Qb3 *(18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Rxe5 Ng4±; 18.dxe5 Ng4±)* 18...e4]



White leaves nothing to chance now.

18.Nc4!±

[18.Nxe5 Nxe5 19.Bb4 *(19.dxe5? Ng4-+; 19.Rxe5 Rxe5 20.dxe5 Ng4∓)* 19...Ra8∓]

[18.dxe5 Ng4 19.Nd4 c5 *(19...N4xe5 20.Nf5=; 19...N6xe5 20.h3±; 19...Rxe5 20.Rxe5 N4xe5 21.g3∓; 19...Qh4 20.N2f3∓)*]

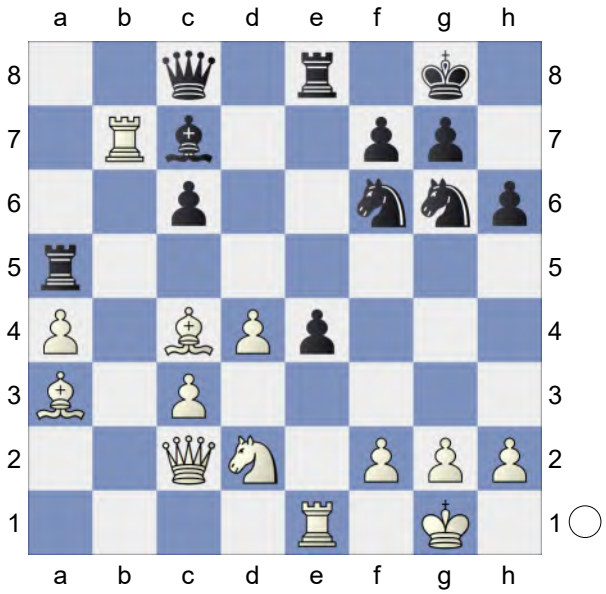
18...Bxc4 19.Bxc4 e4 20.Nd2 Bc7 21.Rxb7

[21.Nxe4 Nxe4 22.Rxe4 Rxe4 23.Qxe4 Rxa4]

21...Qc8 2.58/19

[21...Nf4± 1.19/20 might work better.]

(Diagram)



22.Qb3 1.12/20

[22.Bxf7+!+- 2.58/19 Kxf7 23.Qb3+ Nd5 *(23...Rd5 24.Bd6=)* 24.Bd6 *(24.Nxe4 Kg8=)*]

22...Rd5? 2.78/20 **23.Bxd5+- cxd5 24.Nf1 Nf4** 2.62/19

[⌓24...Bf4 1.81/18 25.Bc1 Bxc1]

25.Ne3 Ba5 3.76/20

[⌓25...Re6 2.63/18 26.Qb5 Nd3]

26.Bc5 Qe6 27.Bb6 Nd3 5.16/19

[⌓27...Ng4 3.55/20 28.Bxa5 Qg6 29.Nxd5 *(29.Rb8 Nxe3 30.Rxe8+ Kh7-+)* 29...Nh3+ 30.Kf1 *(30.gxh3?* is a self mate. *Ne3+ 31.Kh1 Qg2#)* 30...Nxh2+ 31.Ke2 Qxg2 32.Nf6+ Double Attack Kh8]

28.Rf1 White is clearly winning.

28...Bxb6 6.83/21

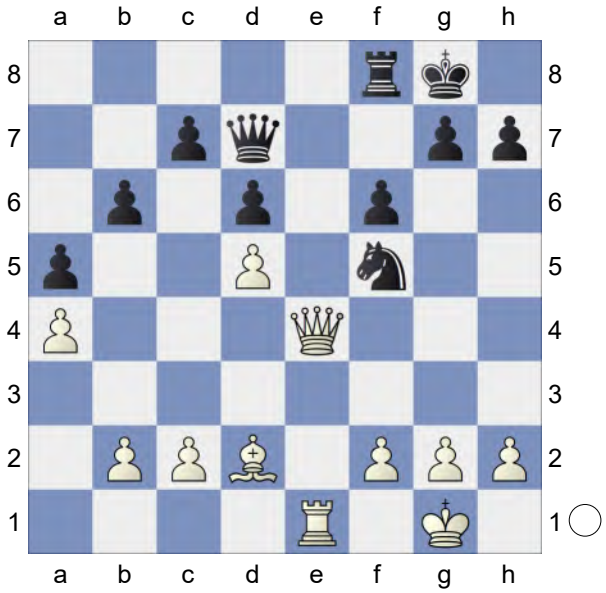
[⌓28...Ra8 4.70/19 29.Bxa5 Rxa5]

29.Rxb6 Qc8 30.a5 Ng4 31.a6 Nxe3 32.fxe3 Qc7 33.Rb7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) / Black=0.97

1-0

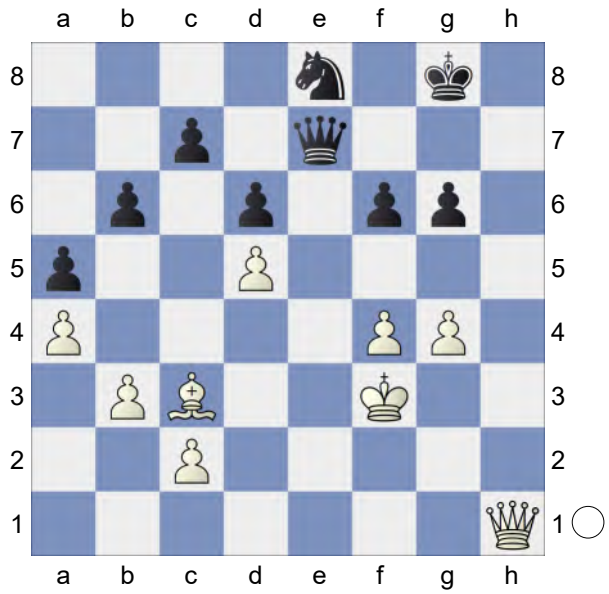
181 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
■ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2725**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.15)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Nf5**
[10...Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Bxd4 13.Bxd6 cxd6 14.Nc3 Bxc3 0.64/23 *(14...Be5=* 0.20/21) 15.Qxc3± b6 16.Qf3 Rb8 17.Bc4 0.35/24 *(17.Qa3±* 0.77/23) 17...Qe7 18.Bd5 Against Bb7 a5 1.16/24 *(18...Ba6±* 0.39/22) 19.a4 1-0 (35) Carlsen,M (2859)-Gukesh,D (2725) Chess.com INT 2022]
11.d5 d6
[11...Re8 12.Nd2 Rxe1 13.Qxe1 d6 14.c3 c6 15.Ne4 Bd7 16.dxc6 Bxc6 17.Bf4 Be5 18.Ng3 Bxf4 19.Nxf5 Be5 20.g3 Qg5 21.Ne3 f5 22.Bg2 f4 23.Bxc6 bxc6 24.Nc4 Rf8 25.Nxd6 fxg3 26.hxg3 ½-½ Tomashevsky,E (2701)-Esipenko,A (2672) 144/100 Moscow 2020]
12.Nd2 Bg5 White is slightly better.
[12...h6 13.c3 Bd7 14.Bd3 a5 15.Ne4 Re8 16.Bd2 Nh4 17.Qc2 a4 18.Rac1 Be5 19.f4 Bf6 20.Be3 g6 21.Nxf6+ Qxf6 22.Qf2 Nf5 23.Bd2 h5 24.h3 Kf8 25.Be4 Qh4 26.c4 Qxf2+ 27.Kxf2 1-0 Coles,R (2167)-Morawietz,D (2396) Biel HTO 56th 2023 (10)]
13.a4N A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 13.Ne4 Bxc1 14.Qxc1 *(14.Rxc1 Bd7 15.c4 Re8 16.Qd2 Re5 17.Bd3 Qh4 18.f4 Re7 19.c5 Rae8 20.b4* 0-1 Dzenis,J (2466)-Brinkmann,W (2393) corr Ostsee-Cup 2008 *)* 14...Bd7 15.Qf4 Qh4 16.Qd2 Qg4 17.h3 Qg6 18.Bd3 Nh4 19.Ng3 0-1 (81) Steinberg,N (2542)-Kamsky,G (2655) Chess.com INT 2022]
13...a5 14.Bb5 Bd7 0.93/23
[14...h6± 0.36/22]
15.Bxd7!± Qxd7 16.Qg4! Bxd2 1.31/20
[Black should try 16...Bf6 0.81/20]
17.Bxd2 b6 1.57/24
[⌓17...c5 1.17/20]
18.Re4 Rae8 19.Rae1 Rxe4 20.Qxe4 0.91/23
[⌓20.Rxe4 1.34/25 g6 21.Qe2]
20...f6



21.h3! g6 1.39/25
[⌓21...Rf7 0.78/22]
22.g4 Ng7 23.Qd4 0.81/23 Black is weak on the dark squares
[⌓23.Qe7 1.40/24 Rf7 24.Qxd7 Rxd7 25.Bc3]
23...Qf7 24.f4 0.21/27 White has more active pieces.
[24.c4± 0.93/23]
24...Re8= 25.Kf2 Rxe1 26.Bxe1 Endgame KQB-KQN **26...Qe7** 1.05/23

[26...Kf8= 0.26/25]
27.Bd2 0.36/23
[27.Bc3± 1.05/23 Kf7 28.b3]
27...Kf7 28.Qc4 0.01/25
[28.b3± 0.63/24]
28...h5 29.Bc3 hxg4 30.hxg4 Qd7 31.b3 Ne8 32.Kf3 Kg8 0.42/26
[32...Kf8= 0.01/26]
33.Qe4 0.01/25
[33.Qd3± 0.42/26 Qh7 34.Kg2]
33...Kf7? 6.56/28
[33...f5= 0.01/25 34.gxf5 gxf5]
34.Qe1? 0.11/27
[34.f5+- 6.56/28 gxf5 35.Qxf5 *(35.gxf5 Kf8±)* 35...Qxf5+ 36.gxf5]
34...Qe7? 6.25/28
[34...f5= 0.11/27]
35.Qh1 Kg8



Wards off Qh7+ **36.Qh6! Qf7 37.g5?** -1.20/27
[37.Kg3+- 4.34/25 aiming for Bd4. Ng7 38.Bd4]
37...Qxd5+∓ 38.Ke3? -4.22/25
[38.Kg3∓ -1.11/28 Qf5 39.Bxf6 Nxf6 *(39...Qxc2? 40.Qh8+ Kf7 41.Qh7+ Ke6 42.Qg8+ Kd7 43.Qf7+* Deflection *Kc6 44.Qxe8++-)* 40.gxf6 Qxf6 41.c4]
38...Qe6+? -0.27/25
[38...Qc5+-+ -4.22/25 39.Kd2 Qf2+ 40.Kc1 Qxf4+ 41.Bd2 Qf5]
39.Kd2= Qf5 40.Qh4 Kg7 -0.01/25
[40...Ng7∓ -0.45/25 should be considered.]
41.Kc1 d5 42.Kb2 c5 43.gxf6+ Nxf6 44.Be5 Kf7 45.Qh8 Ne4 1.38/26
[45...g5= -0.01/24 remains equal. 46.Qb8 Nd7]
46.Qb8 0.01/26
[White should play 46.Qh7+± 1.38/26 Ke6 47.Qc7]
46...Qe6 47.Qc7+ Kf8 48.Qd8+ Kf7 49.Bc7 Qf6+ 0.57/30
[49...g5!= 0.01/25]
50.Qxf6+± Kxf6 51.Bxb6 Kf5 1.20/26
[51...Ke6± 0.59/29]
52.Bxa5± Kxf4? 8.74/26
[52...Ke6± 1.30/25 53.Bb6 Kd6]
53.Bc7++- White is clearly winning.
53...Kf5 54.a5 c4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.55/Black=0.80 **55.a6 1-0**

182 **C67**
□ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2745**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2811**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.18)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Be7 10.Nc3 Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4** The position is equal. **12.Rd1+**
[12.Be3 h5 13.Rad1+ Ke8 14.Ne2 Be7 15.Rfe1 a6 16.Bf4 g5 17.Be3 Bf5 18.Nd4 Bg6 19.e6 Rd8 20.exf7+ Kxf7 21.Nf3 Bxc2 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.Nxg5+ Kf6 24.Ne6 Rd1

25.Bg5+ Kf7 26.Rxd1 Bxd1 Vachier Lagrave,M (2788)-Eljanov,P (2765) Stavanger 2016 CBM 172 [ChessBase] ½-½ (52)]

12...Ke8 13.Ne2 Be7 14.g4! is now more promising than 14.Be3. im Vergleich zu 14.Le3 vielversprechender.

14...h5N

[14...f5 15.exf6 Bxf6 16.Ng3 Kf7 17.Ne4 Be6 18.Bf4 Bd5 19.Nxf6 gxf6 20.Kh2 h5 21.Kg3 hxg4 22.hxg4 Rh7 23.c4 Bxc4 24.Rd7+ Kg6 25.Rxh7 Kxh7 26.Re1 Rg8 27.b3 Bd5 28.Re7+ Rg7 29.Rxc7 Marosi,G (2743)-C 06/32 (2745) Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden 2023 CBM 053 ext [John Watson] ½-½ (43)]

15.f3 hxg4 16.hxg4 f5 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Bf4 f5 19.g5

[But not 19.Bxc7 fxg4 20.Nd4 gxf3∓]

19...Rg8N 1.17/23

[Vorgänger: 19...Kf7 20.Kf2 Threatens to win with Be5. Be6! 21.Rh1 Rag8 22.a3 Bc4 White must now prevent ...Bc5+. 23.Nd4 Hoping for Rxh8. Kg6 24.b3 Bf7 25.Bxc7 next f4 is good for White. Bc5 ½-½ (34) Ristea,T (2373)-Woznica,M (2360) GER email 2018]

[19...Kf7= 0.24/25]

20.Kf2± Bxg5 21.Bxg5 Rxg5 22.Nf4! Prevents Be6. **22...Bd7?** 2.82/21

[22...Kf7± 1.20/22]

23.Rh1 1.16/23

[23.Rd4+- 2.82/21 Rg7 24.Rd3]

23...Kf7 24.Rad1 White has strong compensation. **24...Be8 25.Rde1** And now Ne6 would win. **25...Rc8 26.Rh6** 0.17/21

[26.Rh4± 0.90/20]

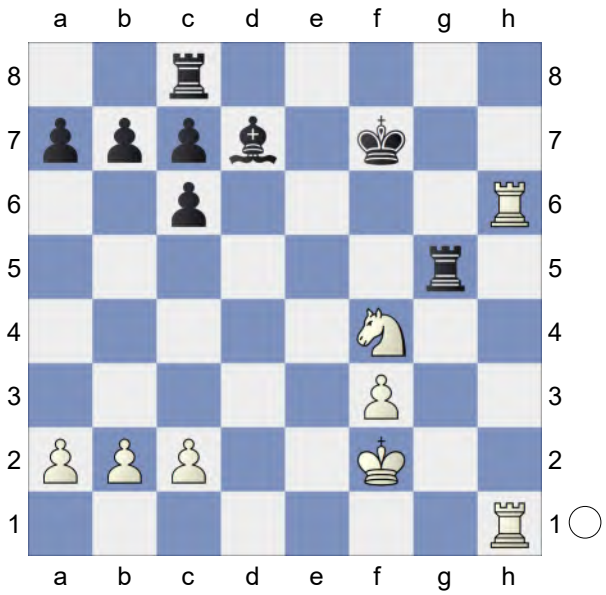
26...Kg8 0.92/17

[26...Kg7!= 0.17/21 remains equal. 27.Rhh1 Bf7]

27.Reh1! 0x0.00267b410bf5dp-1022s more active pieces. **27...Kf7 28.Nd3 f4** 1.56/20

[⌓28...Rd8 0.81/21]

29.Nxf4 Bd7



30.Nd3 0.14/24

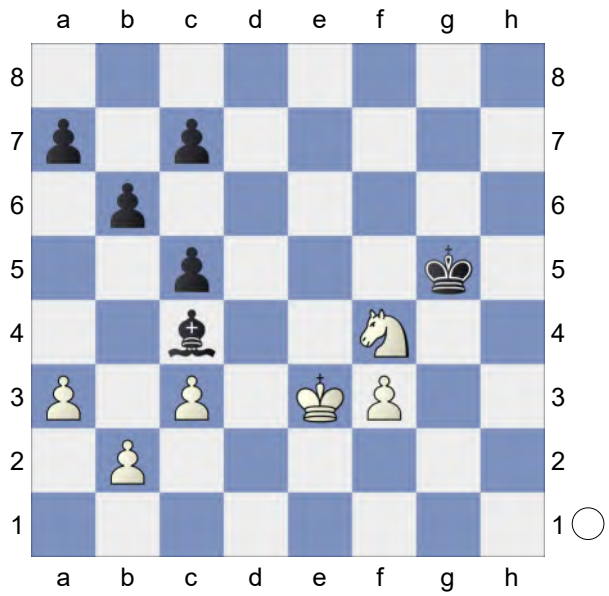
[Much less strong is 30.Rh7+ Rg7±]

[30.Nh5!± 1.06/19]

30...Rcg8= 31.Rh7+ R8g7 32.Rxg7+ Kxg7 Endgame KRB-KRN **33.Rg1 Kf6 34.Rxg5 Kxg5** KB-KN **35.c3 Be6 36.a3 b6 37.Ke3 c5 38.Nf4 Bc4** 1.70/24

[Black should play 38...Bd7!± 0.45/29]

(Diagram)

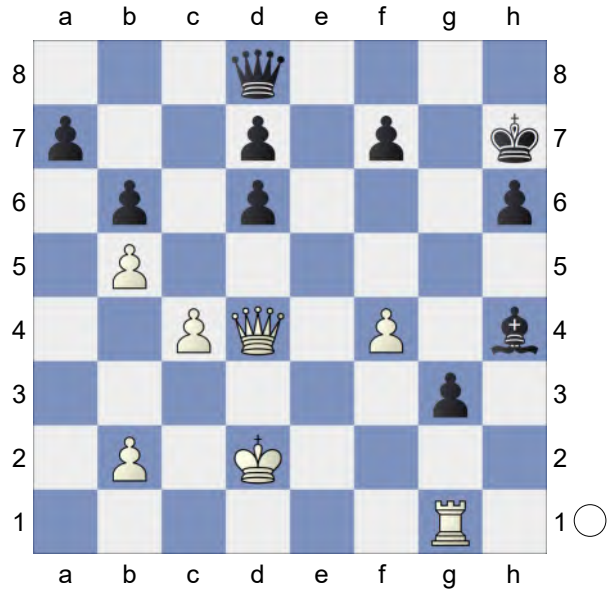


39.Ke4!+- a5? 5.51/20
[39...Kf6 1.71/21]
40.Nd5 Bxd5+ 41.Kxd5 Kf4 42.Kc6 a4 is the strong threat. **42...Kxf3 43.Kxc7 Ke4 44.Kxb6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) / Black=0.55
1-0

183 **C67**
□ **JellyFischer** **3181**
■ **FrozenightEngine** **2676**
Rapid 20.11.2022
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 6min+3sec C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Bxd4** The position is equal.
[12...Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Nd6 18.Qe3 Bg4 19.Re1 Qf8 20.h3 Bd7 21.g4 Re8 22.Ne5 Be6 23.Qg3 g5 24.Bc1 Bd8 25.Nf3 f6 26.h4 h6 27.hxg5 Carlsen,M (2859)-So,W (2760) San Francisco 2022 playchess.com [TA] ½-½ (47)]
13.Bxd6N
[13.Nc3 Ne8 14.Nd5 c6 15.Ne7+ Kf8 16.Nxc8 Qf6 17.Bg3 Rxc8 18.Qb4+ d6 19.Qxb7 Rc7 20.Qb8 Bxb2 21.Bxd6+ Qxd6 22.Qxb2 Re7 23.Rb1 Nf6 24.Qc3 Ne4 25.Qf3 g6 26.Rd1 Qe5 27.a3 Kg7 Robson,R (2702)-Dominguez Perez,L (2743) Berlin (m/3-blitz) 156/122 2023 [Perunovic,Milos] ½-½ (54) 28.Qe3 Nc3 29.Qxe5+ Rxe5 30.Rd7 Ra5 31.Rc7 Rxa3 32.Rxc6 Nd5 33.g3 Rc3 34.Ra6 Rxc2 35.Rxa7 Rc7 36.Ra5 Nf6 37.Kg2 Re7 38.Bd3 h5 39.h3 Rd7 40.Bc2 Rd5 41.Ra7 Rd7 42.Ra6 Re7 4.c3 ♘f6 5.e5/6... f5_42692 (2702)-Marosi,G (2743) Sniper Training Match, Monkseaton 2023 200 Traps In The Opening [Nyback/Meyer,CD] ½-½ (54)]
13...cxd6 14.Nc3 Be5! 15.Rd1 b6 16.Qe4 Against Bb7 **16...Rb8 17.Nd5 Bb7 18.c3 Bc6 19.f4 Bf6 20.a4 g6 21.g3 Bb7 22.Bc4 Bg7 23.Kf1 Qe8 24.Qd3 Qf8 25.Nc7 Rc8 26.Nb5 Ba6 27.Ke1 Rc5 28.Bd5 Bf6 29.h4 Kg7 30.Kd2 Qd8** 0.34/21
[30...h5= -0.01/19 might be stronger.]
31.h5± gxh5 0.69/20
[31...Qf8= 0.26/17]
32.Rh1 0x0.0025010a926edp-1022s more active pieces. **32...h4 33.c4 Bxb5 34.axb5 h6** 0.48/22
[34...Qe7= 0.13/18]
35.Qf5 hxg3
[35...Rxd5+ 36.Qxd5 *(36.cxd5 Kg8±)* 36...hxg3 37.Qf3±]
36.Rg1 The board is on fire.
[36.Qh5 Rxd5+ 37.cxd5 Qh8±]
36...Rxd5+! 37.Qxd5 Endgame KQR-

KQB **37...Bh4 38.Qd4+** White has compensation. **38...Kh7**



39.Ke3! f5 40.Qd3 Qf6 41.Kf3! Qe6 0.87/21

[41...Qxb2? 42.Qxf5+ Kg8 43.Qg6+ Kf8 44.Qxh6+ *(44.Kg4 Qe2+ 45.Kxh4 Qh2+ 46.Kg4 h5+ 47.Qxh5 Qxg1=)* 44...Kg8 45.Qg6+ *(45.Qxh4 Qf2+ 46.Kg4 Qxg1±)* 45...Kf8 46.Qh6+ *(46.Qxd6+ Be7±; 46.Kg4 Qe2+ 47.Kxh4 Qh2+ 48.Kg4 Qxg1=)* 46...Kg8 47.Qg6+ *(47.Qxh4 Qf2+ 48.Kg4 Qxg1=)* 47...Kf8 48.Qh6++- *(48.Qxd6+ Be7±; 48.Kg4 Qe2+ 49.Kxh4 Qh2+ 50.Kg4 Qxg1=)*]

[41...h5= 0.27/19]

42.b3± Black is on the road to losing.

42...h5 1.28/23

[⌓42...Qf6 0.89/19]

43.Kg2 Qg6 1.49/23

[⌓43...d5 1.08/22]

44.Rh1 Qf6 1.92/25

[44...Bd8± 1.39/23 might work better.]

45.Qe2+- Kh6 46.Kh3 Qd8 2.06/23

[46...d5 1.64/23 was worth a try. 47.cxd5 *(47.Kg2 d4±)* 47...Qd8]

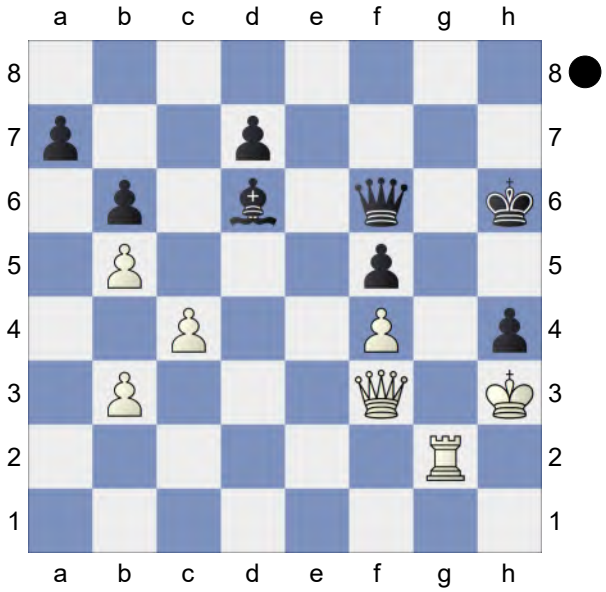
47.Rg1 Be7 2.00/25

[47...Kg6± 1.59/23 48.Qd2 d5 49.Qxd5 Qe7]

48.Rxg3 Qf8 49.Qd3 h4 50.Rg2 Qf6 3.00/22

[50...Bd8 1.95/24 was necessary. 51.Ra2 Qe7]

51.Qd5 Qc3+ 52.Kh2 Qf6 53.Qg8 d5 54.Qxd5 Bc5 55.Qf3 Inhibits Be3. **55...Bd6 56.Kh3**



aiming for Rg5. **56...Be7 57.Qe3** Against Qd4

[Not 57.Rg5 Qf7+-]

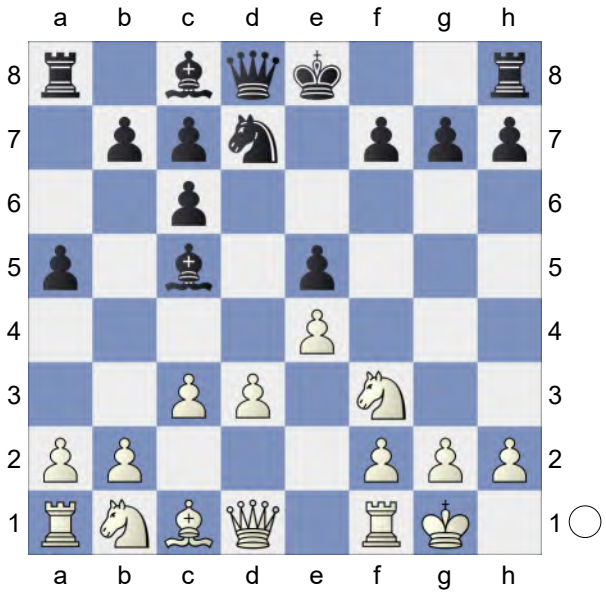
57...Bd6 58.Qe1 Strongly threatening Rg5. **58...Bxf4 59.Qxh4+ Qxh4+ 60.Kxh4** KR-KB **60...d6 61.Rf2 Bg5+ 62.Kg3 Kg6 63.Kf3 Bf6 64.Rg2+ Kf7 65.Kf4 Ke6 66.Rg6 Ke7 67.Kxf5 Bc3 68.Ke4 Ke8 69.Kd5** Hoping for Re6+. **69...Kd7 70.Rh6 Ke7 71.Rxd6** Black must now prevent Rh6. **71...Bd4 72.Rh6 Bf2 73.Rh7+ Kf6 74.Rxa7 Bc5 75.Rb7** Threatening mate with b4! **75...Bf2 76.b4** White mates. **76...Kg6 77.c5 Be1 78.c6 Bg3 79.c7 Bxc7 80.Rxc7** KR-KP **80...Kf6 81.Rb7 Kf5 82.Rxb6** KR-K **82...Kg5 83.Rc6 Kh4 84.b6 Kg4 85.b7 Kg5 86.b8Q Kg4**

87.Qh2 Kg5 88.Ke4 Kg4 89.Rg6#
Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
1-0

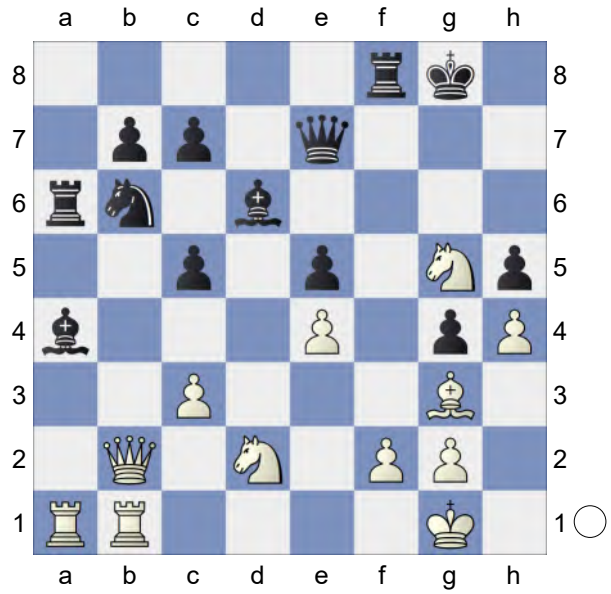
184 **C65**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
■ **So,Wesley** **2760**
Meltwater Tour Final rapid (1.3) 14.11.22
[TA]

1.e4 0 Giri,Anish **1...e5** 0 **2.Nf3** 2 **Nc6** 3 **3.Bb5** 0 **Nf6** 1 **4.d3** 1
[4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Nd6 18.Qe3 ½-½ (47) Carlsen,M (2859)-So,W (2760) chess24.com INT 2022]
4...Bc5 1 **5.Bxc6** 1 **dxc6** 1 **6.0-0** 0 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5. **6...Nd7** 6 **7.c3!** 5 is now more promising than 7.Nbd2. im Vergleich zu 7.Sbd2 vielversprechender. is currently scoring better than 7.Nbd2. is now more promising than 7.Nbd2. im Vergleich zu 7.Sbd2 vielversprechender. **7...a5** 13

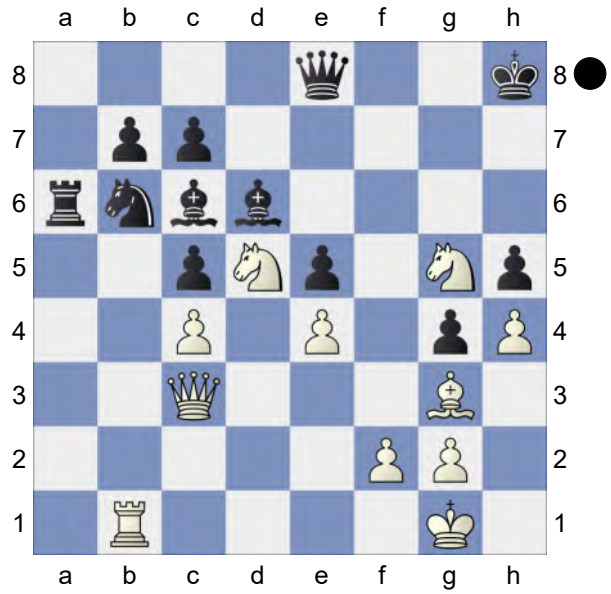
(Diagram)



8.Bg5N 16 White has an edge.
[Vorgänger: Vorgänger: Predecessor: 8.d4 Bd6 9.Re1 a4 10.Nbd2 exd4 11.cxd4 Nb6 12.Nf1 0-0 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bh4 1-0 (50) Giri,A (2776)-So,W (2770) chess24.com INT 2021 CBM 201 [Giri,Anish] 1-0 (50) Giri,A (2776)-So,W (2770) chess24.com INT 2021 CBM 201 [Giri,Anish] 1-0 (50) Giri,A (2776)-So,W (2770) chess24.com INT 2021 CBM 201a [Giri,Anish] 1-0 (50) Giri,A (2776)-So,W (2770) chess24.com INT 2021 CBM 201a [Giri,Anish]]
8...f6 2 **9.Bh4** 1 **Bd6** 1:53 **10.d4** 12 **Qe7** 57 **11.Nbd2** 52 **g5** 1:02 **12.Bg3** 23 **h5** 46 **13.h4!** 38 **g4** 29 **14.dxe5** 5 **fxe5** 2:45 **15.Ng5** 2 **Nb6** 18 Prevents Nc4. **16.a4** 5:45 **Bd7** 1:53
[16...Be6!?]
17.b4 1:07 **c5** 1:57
[17...axb4 18.a5 Nc8 19.Nc4±]
18.bxa5 17 **Rxa5** 0 **19.Qb3** 6 **Bxa4** 40 **20.Qa2** 3 **Ra6** 11 ...Bb5 is the strong threat. **21.Rfb1** 46 Prevents Bb5. **21...Bc6** 1:05 A strong pair of Bishops. **22.Qb3** 3 **Ba4** 14 **23.Qb2** 8 Strongly threatening Nc4! **23...0-0** 19
[23...Kd7!∓]



24.Nc4! 2:24 **Kh8** 1:26
[24...Nxc4 25.Qxb7]
25.Ne3 1:29 **Rfa8** 11
[⌓25...Bd7]
26.c4± 12
[Resist 26.Nf5 Qe8±]
26...Bc6? 43
[26...Kg8± might work better.]
27.Rxa6 36 **Rxa6** 0 **28.Nd5?** 45
[Better is 28.f3+-]
28...Qe8± 33 **29.Qc3** 39



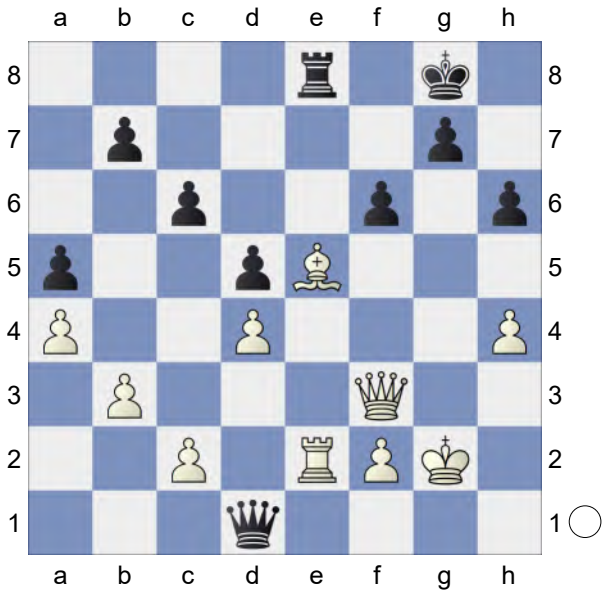
And now f4 would win. White is much more active. **29...Nd7!** 12 **30.f3** 46
[30.Rf1±]
30...Qa8? 57
[30...gxf3!= 31.Rf1 Qg6]
31.Nf7+ 15 **Kg8** 6 **32.Nxd6** 16
[And not 32.Nxe5 Nxe5 33.Bxe5 Ra3=]
32...cxd6 0 **33.Nc7** 10 **Ra3** 7 **34.Qc1** 3 **Qa5?** 10
[34...Qd8+- 35.Qxa3 Qxc7 36.fxg4 Nf6]
35.Qg5+ 3 **Kf8** 41 **36.Ne6+** 3
[⌓36.Qd8+ Kf7 37.Qe8+ Kf6 38.Qe6+ Kg7 39.Qe7+ Kg6 40.Ne6 Qe1+ 41.Bxe1 Bxe4 42.fxe4 Kh6 43.Qg7#]
36...Kf7+- 35 **37.Nd8+** 12 **Kf8** 14
38.Nxc6 30 **bxc6** 22 **39.Rb7** 2
Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.64
1-0

185 **C67**
□ **Brkic,Ante** **2642**
■ **Pechac,Jergus** **2578**
Bundesliga 2425 (7.2) 01.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

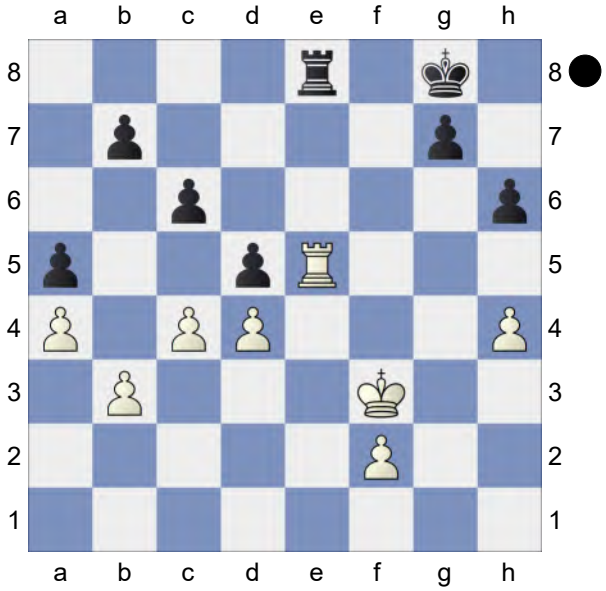
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** 10...Re8 is better than 10...Nf5. 10...Te8 ist besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** White has an edge. **13.Qc3**
[13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 c6 15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Nd6 18.Qe3 Bg4 19.Re1 Qf8 20.h3 Bd7 21.g4 Re8 22.Ne5 Be6 23.Qg3 g5 24.Bc1 Bd8 25.Nf3 f6 26.h4 h6 27.hxg5 hxg5 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2859)-So,W (2760)

Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.1)]
13...d5 14.Nd2 Nd6!N An important novelty. Eine beachtenswerte Neuerung.
[14...c6 15.Re1 g6 16.Nb3 Ng7 17.Be5 Bxe5 18.Rxe5 Ne6 19.Nc5 Nxc5 *(19...Qd6 20.Nxe6 Bxe6 21.h4 Re8 22.g3 f6 23.Re3 Kf7 24.Qa5 a6 25.Bd3 Re7 26.Qd2 h5 27.Qe1 Qd7 28.a4 Re8 29.a5 Kg7 30.c4 Bf7 31.Rxe8 Qxe8 32.Qxe8 Bxe8 33.cxd5 cxd5 34.Kg2* 1-0 Predein,V (2584)-Jimenez G,G (2661) Wijk 1996 (6.2)*)* 20.Qxc5 Be6 ½-½ Deac,B (2687)-Kozak,A (2591) Alba Iulia Final ROM GP KO rapid 2024 (3.2) 21.Bd3 Qf8 22.Qc3 Qd6 23.h4 f6 24.Re3 Bf7 25.g3 b6 26.Bf1 Re8 27.Rxe8+ Bxe8 28.Qe3 Bd7 29.c3 Kg7 30.Bd3 Be6 31.Kg2 Bf7 32.g4 h6 33.g5 hxg5 34.hxg5 fxg5 35.Qxg5 Qf6 ½-½ Deac,B (2687)-Kozak,A (2591) Alba Iulia Final ROM GP KO rapid 2024 (3.2)]
[14...Bf5 15.Re1 c6 16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Na5 Qe7 19.b4 Be4 20.Nb3 Rd8 21.a3 Bxe5 22.dxe5 d4 23.Qd2 Bd5 24.Nc1 c5 25.f4 g6 26.Ne2 b6 27.f5 gxf5 28.Ng3 f4 29.Nh5 0-1 Deac,B (2693)-Moussard, J (2654) Biel Rapid 56th 2023 (7)]
15.a4 a5 16.Re1 Be6 17.Nf3 h6 18.h3 Nc4 19.b3 Nd6 20.Bd3 c6 21.Qd2 Bf5 22.Bxf5 Nxf5 23.Be5 Nh4 24.Qf4 Bg5 25.Qg4
[25.Nxg5 simplifies Qxg5 26.Qxg5 hxg5 27.Bd6]
25...Nxf3+ 26.Qxf3 Qe7 27.Re2 Re8 28.Kf1 Qa3 29.g3 With the idea h3-h4. **29...Qc1+ 30.Kg2 Qd1 31.h4** Inhibits f7-f6. **31...Bxh4** 0.52/22 **32.gxh4± f6**

(Diagram)

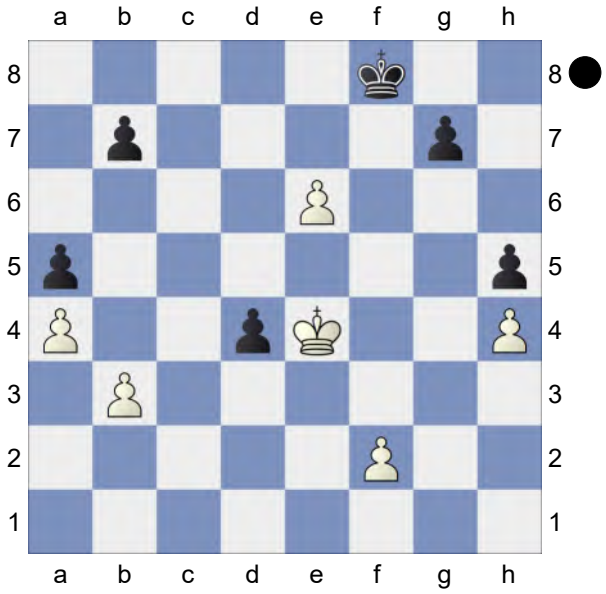


33.c4? -1.07/22 **fxe5∓** Black is more active. **34.Rxe5?** -6.05/21
[34.cxd5∓ -1.15/23 Rf8 *(34...Qxd4 35.dxc6 bxc6 36.Qxc6=)* 35.Qe4 exd4 *(35...Qxb3 36.dxc6 bxc6 37.dxe5=)* 36.f3]
34...Qxf3+-+ 35.Kxf3



Rxe5 36.dxe5∓ and h4-h5 would now be decisive. KP-KP **36...h5 37.cxd5?** -7.56/22 White does not recover from this.
[37.c5∓ -1.34/18]
37...cxd5-+ Black is clearly winning.

38.e6 Kf8 Threatens to win with ...g7-g5!. **39.Kf4 d4 40.Ke4**



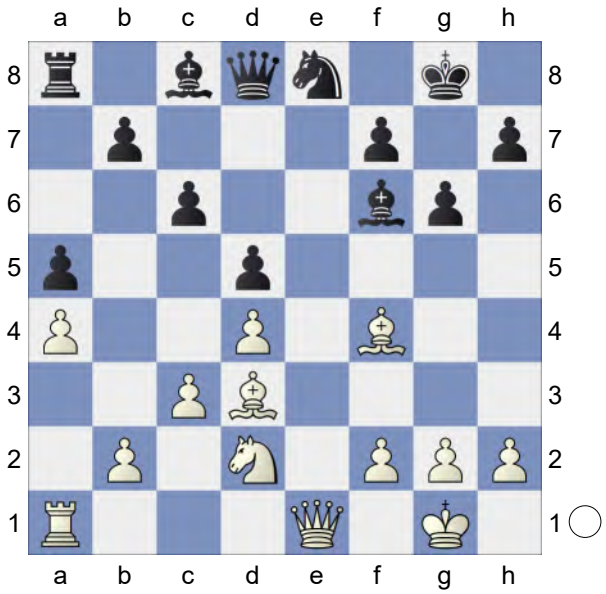
g5! Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/Black=0.06 (flawless)
0-1

186 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
■ **So,Wesley** **2760**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.1)
[TA]

Rapid 15min+10sec **1.e4** 0 **e5** 0 **2.Nf3** 2 **Nc6** 4 **3.Bb5** 1 **Nf6** 3 **4.0-0** 1 **Nxe4** 1 **5.Re1** 1 **Nd6** 1 **6.Nxe5** 1 **Be7** 0 **7.Bf1** 2 **Nxe5** 1 **8.Rxe5** 0 **0-0** 0 **9.d4** 1 **Bf6** 3 **10.Re1** 1 **Re8** 2 C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4. **11.Bf4** 6 **Rxe1** 5 **12.Qxe1** 0 **Ne8** 1 **13.c3** 2 **d5** 7 **14.Nd2** 1

[14.Bd3 c6 15.Nd2 g6 16.Nf3 Ng7 17.Qe2 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Re1 Ng7 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Qd6 22.Qf3 f6 23.Nd3 ½-½ (29) Carlsen,M (2847)-So,W (2770) chess24.com INT 2021]

14...c6 40 **15.a4** 5 **a5** 4 **16.Bd3** 11 **g6** 41



17.Nf3N 14

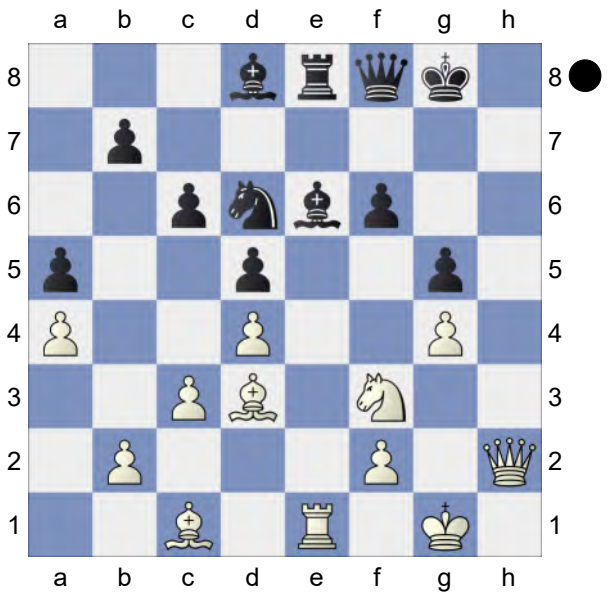
[Predecessor: 17.Nf1 Ng7 18.Ng3 h5 19.h3 h4 20.Nf1 Bf5 21.Bxf5 Nxf5 22.Ne3 Bg5 23.Bxg5 Qxg5 24.Nxf5 gxf5 1-0 (67) Zarubitski,V (2412)-Dobrovoljc,V (2344) Bad Blankenburg 2018]

17...Nd6 33 **18.Qe3** 1:28 **Bg4** 2:30 **19.Re1** 2:48 **Qf8** 3:16 **20.h3** 3:06 **Bd7** 2:06

[20...Bxf3!? 21.Qxf3 Re8 22.Rxe8 Nxe8±]

21.g4 3:32 **Re8** 52 **22.Ne5** 7 **Be6** 51 **23.Qg3** 52 next Nxg6! is good for White. **23...g5** 2:38 **24.Bc1** 1:28 **Bd8** 10 **25.Nf3** 2:10 **f6** 14 **26.h4** 1 **h6** 43 **27.hxg5** 1 **hxg5** 4 **28.Qh2** 14

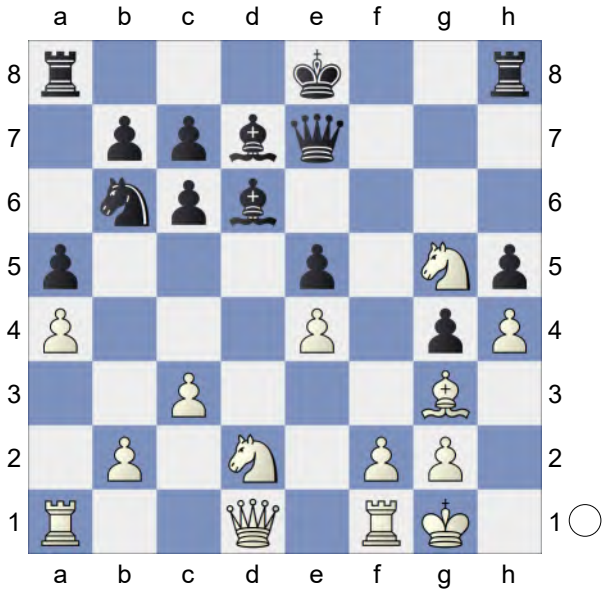
(Diagram)



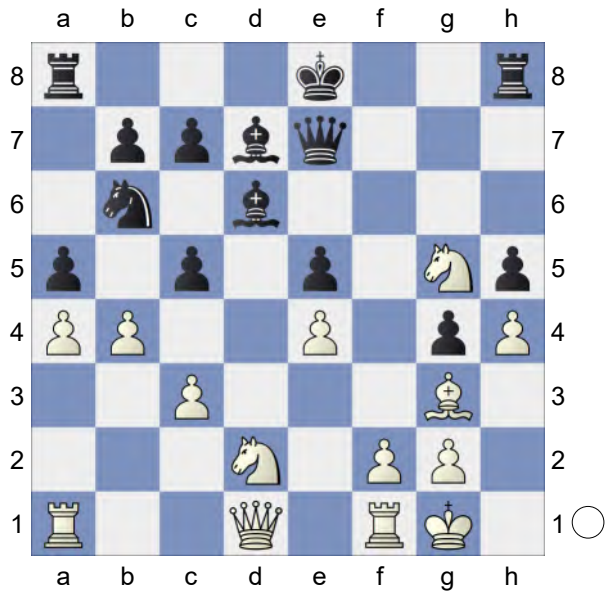
Ne4 15 **29.Nd2** 3
[Much worse is 29.Bxe4 dxe4 30.Nd2 Bxg4 31.Rxe4 Rxe4 32.Nxe4 Qe7∓]
29...f5 30
[29...Re7!= remains equal.]
30.gxf5± 37 **Bxf5** 6 And now ...Nxd2 would win. **31.Nxe4** 3 **Bxe4** 40 **32.Bxe4** 5 **Rxe4** 0 **33.Rxe4** 9 **dxe4** 0 Endgame KQB-KQB **34.Qh3** 44 **Kg7** 31 **35.Kg2** 36
[35.Qd7+± Kg6 36.Qe6+ *(36.Qxb7 Qf5=)* 36...Qf6 37.Qxe4+ Qf5 38.f3 *(38.Qe8+ Kg7±)*]
35...Qf7!= 16 The position is equal.
36.Qg4 9 **Qd5** 8 **37.Be3** 3 **Kg6** 18 **38.Qg3** 1:26 **b5** 26 **39.axb5** 8 **cxb5** 0 **40.Qb8** 20 **a4** 28 **41.Kf1** 7 **Qc4+** 41 **42.Ke1** 6 **Bf6** 41 **43.Qe8+** 6 **Kf5** 7 **44.Qd7+** 8 **Kg6** 1 **45.Qe8+** 41 **Kf5** 1 **46.Qd7+** 20 **Kg6** 1 **47.Qe8+** 0
Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

187 **C65**
□ **Molina,Roberto Junio Brito** **2859**
■ **Sudgen,J N** **2760**
KAZ-ch Semey (1.3) 11.11.2022
[TA]

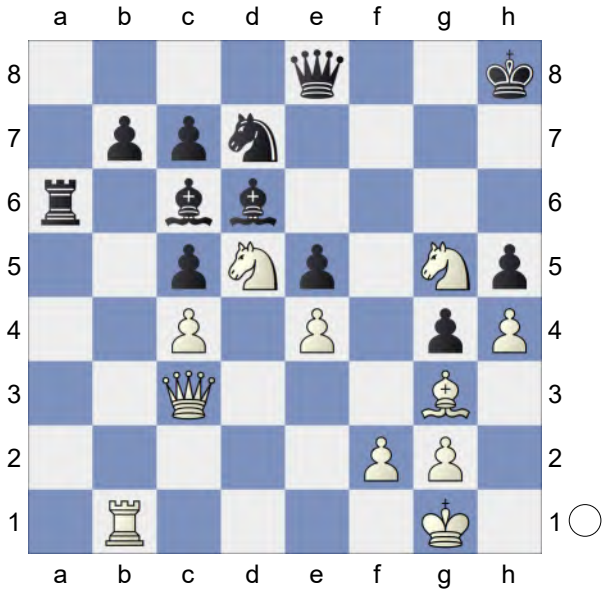
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.c3 a5 8.Bg5N The position is equal.
[8.d4 Bd6 9.Re1 a4 10.Nbd2 exd4 11.cxd4 Nb6 12.Nf1 0-0 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bh4 Bg4 15.h3 Bh5 16.Qd3 Qd7 17.g4 Bg6 18.Ne3 Nd5 19.Nf5 Nf4 20.Qf1 Bxf5 21.gxf5 g6 22.Bg3 Nh5 1-0 Grube,J (2776)-Sudgen,J (2770) Wch17 NLD 1937 (2.13)]
8...f6 9.Bh4 Bd6 10.d4 Qe7 11.Nbd2 g5 12.Bg3 h5 0.48/21
[12...Nb6= 0.07/23]
13.h4± g4 14.dxe5 Deflection **14...fxe5** 0.66/22
[14...Nxe5= 0.28/21 was preferable. 15.Nxe5 Bxe5]
15.Ng5 Nb6 Dodges Nc4 **16.a4 Bd7**



17.b4! c5
[17...axb4 18.a5 bxc3 19.axb6 Rxa1 20.Qxa1 cxd2 21.Rd1±]
[17...Rg8 18.bxa5]



18.bxa5 0.57/20
[18.f4!± 0.94/24]
18...Rxa5 19.Qb3 0.11/24
[19.f4± 0.79/23]
19...Bxa4 0.59/24
[19...Rxa4= 0.11/24 20.Rfb1 Qf6]
20.Qa2 0.06/23
[20.Qb2!± 0.59/24]
20...Ra6!= 21.Rfb1 Prevents Bb5
21...Bc6 22.Qb3⇄ White is fighting back
22...Ba4 23.Qb2 0-0? 1.67/23
[23...Kd7!∓ -0.34/20 keeps the upper hand.]
24.Nc4 Kh8 1.98/22
[24...Nxc4± 1.34/21 25.Qxb7 Rfa8 26.Qd5+ Kg7 27.Qxc4 Qe8]
25.Ne3+- A dynamic duo of knights.
25...Rfa8 3.31/21
[⌓25...Bd7 2.01/21 26.Rxa6 bxa6]
26.c4 Bc6 4.73/23
[⌓26...Bd7 3.29/21 27.Rxa6 Rxa6]
27.Rxa6 Rxa6 28.Nd5? 1.28/22
[28.f3+- 4.33/23 and White stays clearly on top.]
28...Qe8 29.Qc3 aiming for f4. White has more active pieces. **29...Nd7**



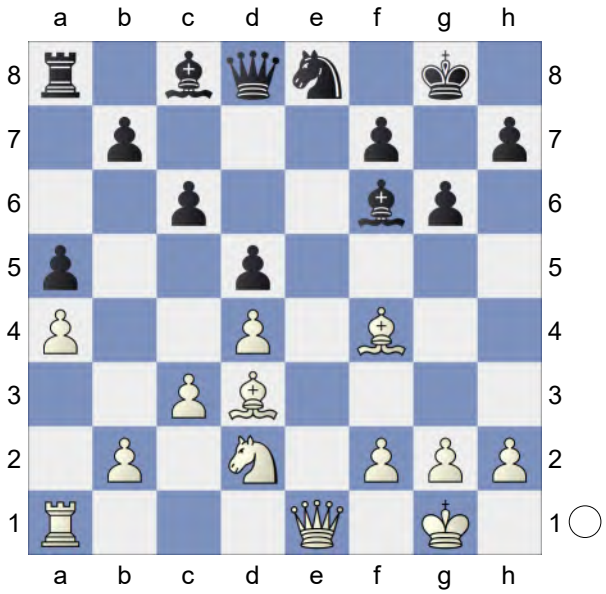
30.f3 0.96/21
[30.Rf1!+- 1.74/21]
30...Qa8? 6.39/22
[30...gxf3± 0.96/21 31.Rf1 *(31.Qxf3 Qg6±; 31.Nxf3 Bxd5 32.exd5 Qg6=; 31.gxf3 Ra2±)* 31...Bxd5 32.exd5 *(32.cxd5 Qg6=)* 32...Qg6]
31.Nf7+ Kg8 32.Nxd6
[Inferior is 32.Nxe5 Nxe5 *(32...Ra3? 33.Qd2+-)* 33.Bxe5 *(33.Nf6+ Kf7=)* 33...Ra3=]
32...cxd6 33.Nc7 Ra3 34.Qc1 Qa5 35.Qg5+ Kf8 36.Ne6+ 17.32/32
[⌓36.Qd8+ #8/18 Kf7 37.Qe8+ Skewer Kf6 38.Qe6+ Kg7 39.Qe7+ *(39.Qxd6 Qc3+-)* 39...Kg6 40.Ne8 *(40.Qxd6+ Kf7 41.Qe6+ Kf8 42.Qe8+ Kg7 43.Qe7+ Kg6 44.Ne8 Qe1+ 45.Rxe1 Bxe4 46.fxe4 Rxg3 47.Qg7#)* 40...Qe1+ 41.Bxe1 *(41.Rxe1 Bxe4 42.fxe4 Rxg3 43.Qg7#)* 41...Bxe4 42.fxe4 Kh6 43.Qg7#]
36...Kf7 37.Nd8+
[37.Qxh5+ Kxe6 38.Qe8+

(38.Qxg4+ Kf7∓) 38...Kf6±]
37...Kf8 **38.Nxc6** Intending Qe7+ and mate. **38...bxc6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/Black=1.06 **39.Rb7**
[Not 39.Qxh5 Ra1 40.Rxa1 Qxa1+ 41.Kh2 gxf3+-]
1-0

188 **C67**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2859**
■ **So,Wesley** **2760**
Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.1)
[TA]

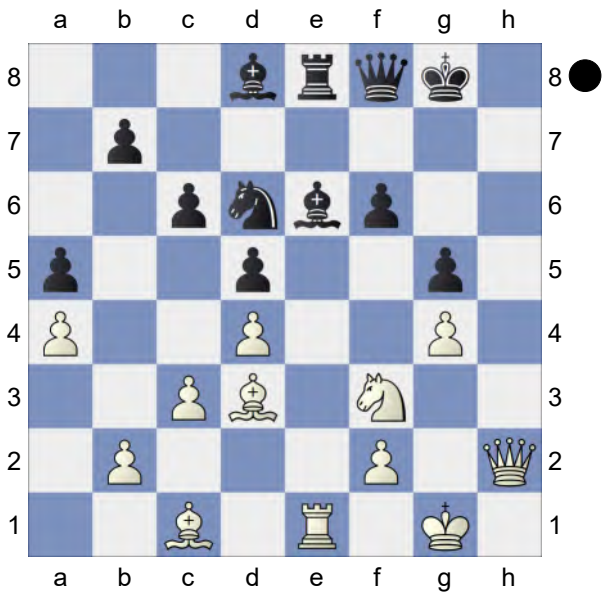
Rapid 15min+10sec **1.e4** 0 **e5** 0 **2.Nf3** 2 **Nc6** 4 **3.Bb5** 1 **Nf6** 3 **4.0-0** 1 **Nxe4** 1 **5.Re1** 1 **Nd6** 1 **6.Nxe5** 1 **Be7** 0 **7.Bf1** 2 **Nxe5** 1 **8.Rxe5** 0 **0-0** 0 **9.d4** 1 **Bf6** 3 **10.Re1** 1 **Re8** 2 C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4. **11.Bf4** 6 **Rxe1** 5 **12.Qxe1** 0 **Ne8** 1 **13.c3** 2 **d5** 7 **14.Nd2** 1
[14.Bd3 c6 15.Nd2 g6 16.Nf3 Ng7 17.Qe2 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Re1 Ng7 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Qd6 22.Qf3 f6 23.Nd3 ½-½ (29) Carlsen, M (2847)-So,W (2770) chess24.com INT 2021]
14...c6 40 **15.a4** 5 **a5** 4 **16.Bd3** 11 **g6** 41

(Diagram)



17.Nf3N 14
[Predecessor: 17.Nf1 Ng7 18.Ng3 h5 19.h3 h4 20.Nf1 Bf5 21.Bxf5 Nxf5 22.Ne3 Bg5 23.Bxg5 Qxg5 24.Nxf5 gxf5 1-0 (67) Zarubitski,V (2412)-Dobrovoljc,V (2344) Bad Blankenburg 2018]
17...Nd6 33 **18.Qe3** 1:28 **Bg4** 2:30 **19.Re1** 2:48 **Qf8** 3:16 **20.h3** 3:06 **Bd7** 2:06
[20...Bxf3!? 21.Qxf3 Re8 22.Rxe8 Nxe8±]
21.g4 3:32 **Re8** 52 **22.Ne5** 7 **Be6** 51 **23.Qg3** 52 next Nxg6! is good for White. **23...g5** 2:38 **24.Bc1** 1:28 **Bd8** 10 **25.Nf3** 2:10 **f6** 14 **26.h4** 1 **h6** 43 **27.hxg5** 1 **hxg5** 4 **28.Qh2** 14

(Diagram)



Ne4 15 **29.Nd2** 3
[Much worse is 29.Bxe4 dxe4 30.Nd2 Bxg4 31.Rxe4 Rxe4 32.Nxe4 Qe7∓]
29...f5 30
[29...Re7!= remains equal.]
30.gxf5± 37 **Bxf5** 6 And now ...Nxd2 would win. **31.Nxe4** 3 **Bxe4** 40 **32.Bxe4** 5 **Rxe4** 0 **33.Rxe4** 9 **dxe4** 0 Endgame KQB-KQB **34.Qh3** 44 **Kg7** 31 **35.Kg2** 36
[35.Qd7+± Kg6 36.Qe6+ *(36.Qxb7 Qf5=)* 36...Qf6 37.Qxe4+ Qf5 38.f3 *(38.Qe8+ Kg7±)*]
35...Qf7!= 16 The position is equal. **36.Qg4** 9 **Qd5** 8 **37.Be3** 3 **Kg6** 18 **38.Qg3** 1:26 **b5** 26 **39.axb5** 8 **cxb5** 0 **40.Qb8** 20 **a4** 28 **41.Kf1** 7 **Qc4+** 41 **42.Ke1** 6 **Bf6** 41 **43.Qe8+** 6 **Kf5** 7 **44.Qd7+** 8 **Kg6** 1 **45.Qe8+** 41 **Kf5** 1 **46.Qd7+** 20 **Kg6** 1 **47.Qe8+** 0 Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

189 **C65**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
■ **So,Wesley** **2760**
Meltwater Tour Final rapid (7.6) 20.11.22
[Giri, Anish, TA]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** Giri,Anish Giri,Anish Giri,Anish **1...e5** **2.Nf3** **Nc6** **3.Bb5** **Nf6** Wesley remains one of the main proponent of the ever solid Berlin Defense. In a must draw situation, there is certainly no need to switch away from it. **4.d3** In the rapid part of the match I played the opening rather unambitiously, but at this point I was forced to switch gears somewhat. **4...Bc5** **5.Bxc6** Giving up the bishop voluntarily can't promise White any objective advantage, but at the same time it ensures that a playable position will arise as the charachter of the position is rather unforced. **5...dxc6** **6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 There are a few different setups. The setup Wesley has chosen is one of the main ways of regrouping the pieces and it remains popular through all the years. **7.Nc3** 7.c3 gains popularity. 7.c3 gains popularity. Previously in the tournament Carlsen has tried c3-d4 setup against Wesley and I had previously actually played both c3, as well as Nc3 against Wesley in some rapid-blitz games as well. 7.c3 wird beliebter.
[7.c3 a5 8.d4 Bd6 9.Re1 a4 10.Nbd2 exd4 11.cxd4 Nb6 12.Nf1 0-0 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bh4 Bg4 15.h3 Bh5 16.Qd3 Qd7 17.g4 Bg6 18.Ne3 Nd5 19.Nf5 Nf4 20.Qf1 Bxf5 21.gxf5 g6 1-0 Grube,J (2776)-

Sudgen,J (2770) Wch17 NLD 1937 (2.13)]

7...Qe7 Wesley has played the simpler 0-0 against me in the Norway Chess armageddon, but now he chooses to keep long castle options.

[7...0-0 8.Be3 next Bxc5 is good for White. f6 9.Ne2 a5 10.a4 b6 11.b3 Rf7 12.Ng3 g6 13.Qe1 Bf8 14.Nd2 Nc5 ½-½ (44) Giri,A (2761)-So,W (2776) Stavanger 2022]

8.Ne2 The position is equal. **8...h5N** 0.41/20 Giri,Anish: '!?' '!?' '!?' I have never seen Black starting the kingside play with this move, certainly not this early, but I must admit it is reasonably logical.

[Vorgänger: 8...f6 9.Ng3 *(9.a3 b6 10.b4 Bd6 11.Be3 Bb7 12.Nd2 a5 13.c3 0-0 14.Ng3 g6 15.Bh6 Rfe8 16.Nc4 Qe6 17.Nxd6 cxd6 18.f4 exf4 19.Bxf4 axb4 20.cxb4 c5 21.Qd2 d5 22.h3 dxe4 23.dxe4 Ne5* 1-0 Giri,A (2768)-Lazavik,D (2544) Chessable Masters Div 2 Lose rapid 2023 (4.3)) 9...Nb6 10.c3 Bd6 11.Re1 Be6 12.Qc2 Qf7 13.h3 Nd7 14.Be3 g6 ½-½ (40) Pessoa,F (2524)-Osipov,S (2499) ICCF email 2020]

[8...b6= -0.06/23]

9.a3 Hinting at potential queenside expansion with b4. **9...Bd6** Black is stepping away from the b4 push. **10.Be3** Developing the pieces and keeping b4 push in reserve. **10...b6** **11.Nd2** Knight is heading towards c4, targetting the d6 bishop. **11...h4** **12.h3!** I was happy with this decision, preventing the annoying h3 push and not fearing g5-g4 action. **12...g5** Black doesn't have any great attacking prospects on the kingside, especially since White can just play f3, but once the kingside gets locked, Black can actually send the king to safety there, making it hard for White to make any progress. **13.Nc4** **Nf8** The knight is heading towards e6/g6 where it is better placed and also Black hints at the g4 push. **14.Nxd6+** 0.24/22 I felt I don't need to waste time on the move f3, as g4 push could also backfire for Black. Immediate

[14.d4!? might have been even stronger though, I am not sure why I traded first.]

[14.d4± 0.65/23]

14...cxd6

[Interestingly the engine prefers 14...Qxd6!? as apparently the g5 pawn is not exactly hanging, due to Black getting counterplay along the open g-file.]

15.d4 Here and on the next few moves as well, White had a strong idea of a4!, which softens up Black's queenside significantly, anticipating any long castle ideas.

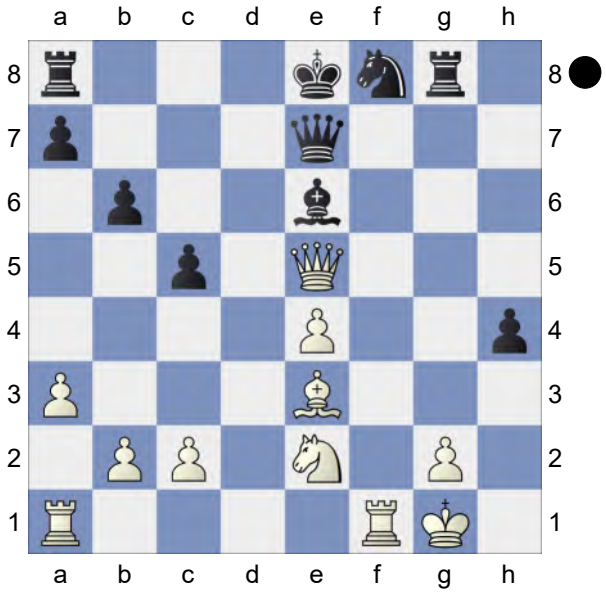
[15.a4!]

15...g4 Black uses the chance to push g4, but I wasn't sure if that is such an issue for me, with Black king also not exactly feeling safe in the center. **16.hxg4** **Bxg4** **17.f3** **Be6** **18.Qd3** **f6** Here it felt like White should have something, but I didn't quite see any other way to up the pressure than the natural f4 move and even though it didn't entirely feel right to weaken a bunch of light squares on the kingside, I still went for it. **19.f4?!** 0.01/20 Once again, the a4! idea was very much called for.

[19.a4± 0.73/18]

19...Rg8 0.53/19 The rook has a nice view on the g-file and it is still hard for

White to get to Black's position, despite having pushed both d4 and f4.
[Black should try 19...Bg4= 0.01/20]
20.dxe5 -0.25/22
[White should play 20.Rf2!± 0.53/19]
20...dxe5 0.17/23
[⌓20...fxe5 -0.25/22 21.a4 h3]
21.fxe5 -0.77/24
[21.f5= 0.17/23 Rd8 22.Qc3]
21...fxe5∓ **22.Qc3** The most natural option. I suddenly noticed 22...0-0-0!? which seemed very strong and was relieved when it didn't happen. **22...c5** Hoping for ...0-0-0.
[22...0-0-0!?]
23.Qxe5!



Actually somewhat desperate, but very strong. Falling into the Rxg2+! trap is the only way to fight for the initiative.
23...Rxg2+! Double Attack **24.Kh1!** Now it turns out that Rxe2 is met with Qh5+ (or is it) and it is not that easy for Black to use the fact that White king has lost all of its pawn shelter. The natural 24...Ng6 can be met with 25.Qh5.
[24.Kxg2? Bh3+ 25.Kxh3 Qxe5-+]
This move loses the game for Black.
24...Rxe2? 4.99/29 Going for the complications that arise after 25.Qh5+ Bf7 26.Qxe2 Qxe4+, but unfortunately for Black, this was actually not even the main point.
[24...Ng6 25.Qh5]
[24...Ng6∓ -0.60/23 stays ahead. 25.Qh5 Bh3]
25.Rxf8+!+- Suddenly Black just loses by force.
[25.Qh5+? 1.50/19 25.Rxf8+ 5.03 Bf7 26.Qxe2 Qxe4+]
[Less strong is 25.Qh5+ Bf7 26.Qxe2 Qxe4+ 27.Kg1 Bd5±]
25...Kxf8 10.31/23
[If 25...Qxf8 26.Qxe6+ White wins the full house with checks as well.]
[⌓25...Qxf8 4.99/27 26.Qxe6+ Qe7 *(26...Kd8 27.Rd1+)* 27.Qc6+ Qd7 *(27...Kf7? 28.Rf1+ Kg8 29.Rg1++-)* 28.Qxa8+ Qd8 29.Qxd8+ *(29.Qxa7 Rxe3 30.Qa4+ Qd7∓)* 29...Kxd8]
26.Qh8+ Skewer **26...Kf7 27.Rf1+**
[27.Qxa8? loses. Rxe3 28.Rf1+ Kg6-+ *(28...Kg7? 29.Qb8-+)*]
27...Kg6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.78 **28.Qh6#** Checkmate ends the game.
1-0

190 **C67**
□ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2693**
■ **Bok,Benjamin** **2599**
Chess.com Classic Play In rapid (9)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4!** is currently scoring better than 11.c3. wohl besser als 11.c3.
11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Qc3 d5

14.Nd2 c6 15.Re1 g6 16.Nb3 Ng7 17.Be5 Bxe5N
[Vorgänger: 17...Ne6 18.Nc5 Bxe5 19.Rxe5 Qd6 20.Nxe6 Bxe6 21.h4 Re8 22.g3 f6 0.59/19 *(22...Re7= 0.28/19 deserves consideration.)* 23.Re3 Kf7 1-0 Kobalia,M (2584)-Inarkiev,E (2661) RUS-chT 30th 2023 (6.2) 24.Qa5 a6 25.Bd3 Re7 26.Qd2 h5 27.Qe1 Qd7 28.a4 Re8 29.a5 Kg7 30.c4 Bf7 31.Rxe8 Qxe8 32.Qxe8 Bxe8 33.cxd5 cxd5 34.Kg2 f5 35.Kf3 Kf6 36.Kf4 Bd7 37.Bc2 Be6 38.Ba4 Bc8 Predein,V (2584)-Jimenez G,G (2661) Wijk 2023 Chess Today CT-827 [John Watson] 1-0 (53)]
18.Rxe5 Qd6 19.a3 Bf5 20.Bd3 Bxd3 21.Qxd3 f6 22.Re2 Re8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qe3 Kf7 25.Nc5 b6 26.Nd3 h5 27.g3 a5 0.31/20
[27...Qe6= -0.01/19]
28.a4
[28.Nf4 feels hotter. g5 29.Ng2 Qe6 30.Qd3]
28...Qe6 The position is equal.
29.Qxe6+
[Much worse is 29.Qh6 Qg4 30.Nf4 *(30.Qh7+ Ng7∓)* 30...Qd1+ 31.Kg2 Qxc2∓]
29...Kxe6 30.f3 g5 31.Kf2 Nd6 32.c3 Nc4 Not much happened in this game.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.05 (flawless)
½-½

191 **C65**
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2725**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2768**
Tata Steel India Rapid (7) 01.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Be6 7.0-0
[7.Nxe5? is the wrong capture. Qd4 8.Rf1 Qxe5-+]
7...Bd6 8.Nb3! outshines the older 8.b3. erfolgreicher als das alte 8.b3. **8...0-0N**
[8...c5 9.Na5 Qc8 10.Ng5 b6 11.Nxe6 Qxe6 12.Nc4 0-0 13.b3 Nd7 14.a4 Nb8 15.Bb2 Nc6 16.Ne3 Rad8 17.g3 Nd4 18.Nc4 Qh3 19.Bxd4 cxd4 20.Qf3 Rfe8 21.Qe2 Re6 22.f3 a6 23.Qd2 ½-½ Iskandarov,M (2601)-Parligras,M (2560) Geoagiu Bai Hunedoara op 2022 (7)]
[8...b6 9.Bg5 Qd7 10.Bh4 c5 11.Nbd2 Nh5 12.Ng5 Nf4 13.Nxe6 Nxe6 14.Nc4 f6 15.f3 a5 16.a4 h5 17.Bf2 h4 18.h3 Be7 19.Qe1 g5 20.Ne3 0-0-0 21.Nf5 Nd4 22.Ne3 Ne6 23.Kh2 1-0 Caruana,F (2766)-Aronian,L (2745) American Cup Elim rapid 2023 (2.4) Kb7 24.Qc3 Nd4 25.Nc4 Rhf8 26.Rfe1 Qc6 27.Qd2 Qd7 28.Be3 Qe6 29.Qf2 Qc6 30.Reb1 Kc8 31.Rd1 Qe6 32.Kh1 Rd7 33.c3 Nc6 34.Qc2 Rfd8 35.Rd2 Kb8 36.Rad1 Bf8 37.Qb3 Qe8 38.Qb5 1-0 Caruana,F (2764)-Yuan,Q (2373) Titled Tuesday intern op 18th Apr Early blitz 2023 (10)]
9.Na5 Qc8 10.Ng5N
[Vorgänger: 10.Bd2 Re8 11.Ng5 b6

12.Nxe6 Qxe6 13.Nb3 a5 14.a4 Nd7 15.Be3 f5 16.exf5 Qxf5 0-1 (47) So,W (2778)-Radjabov,T (2763) chess24.com INT 2021]

10...Bg4 11.Nf3 Nd7 12.h3 Bh5 13.Nc4 Re8 14.Ne3

[14.g4!? Bg6□ 15.a4=]

14...f6 15.Kh1 Nc5 16.Nf5 Ne6 17.g4 Bg6 18.Rg1 h6 19.Be3 Qd7 20.Qf1 c5 21.h4 Kf7 0.61/18

[21...Kh7= 0.17/17]

22.c3 0.19/18 White is much more active.

[22.h5± 0.61/18 might be stronger. Bh7 23.N3h4]

22...Qc6= 23.b3 Rad8 24.Qe2 Rh8 25.h5 Bh7 26.Rgd1 Rd7 27.Kg1 Rhd8 28.a4 Bf8 29.Rd2 b6 30.Ne1 The position is equal. **30...Bg8 31.Ng2 Bd6 32.Rf1 Kf8 33.c4 Bh7 34.Qd1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)

½-½

192 **C67**

□ **Hovhannisyan,Robert** **2619**

■ **Onyshchuk,Volodymyr** **2610**

Olympiad-45 Budapest (10.4) 21.09.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Rd1+ Ke8 10.Nc3 Be7 11.h3 h5 12.Ne2!** now scores much better than the old 12. Bg5. punktet besser als das ältere 12. Lg5. **12...Bd7** 0.34/21

[12...Nh4= 0.00/24 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.f3 Bf5 15.Nd4 Bg6 16.Bf4 Be7 17.g4 Rd8 18.Kg2 hxg4 19.hxg4 Bc5 20.c3 Bxd4 21.Rxd4 Rxd4 22.cxd4 Ke7 23.Rc1 Ke6 24.Be3 f6 25.exf6 gxf6 26.Bd2 Rd8 27.Bc3 Kf7 Anand,V (2816)-Carlsen,M (2853) Saint Louis 2015 CBM 168 [ChessBase II] ½-½ (36)]

[12...h4 13.Bg5 Bxg5 14.Nxg5 Ke7 15.Rd3 Be6 16.Rad1 Rhd8 17.Rxd8 Rxd8 18.Rxd8 Kxd8 19.Nxe6+ fxe6 20.g4 hxg3 21.fxg3 Ne3 22.Nd4 Ke7 23.b3 c5 24.Nb5 c6 25.Nd6 b6 26.c4 Nc2 27.Nc8+ Skrebnevskis,R (2304)-Galinsky,T (2380) Reykjavik 2023 CHECK99 [John Watson] ½-½ (46)]

13.Bg5± White is slightly better. **13...Rd8 14.Nf4 h4N**

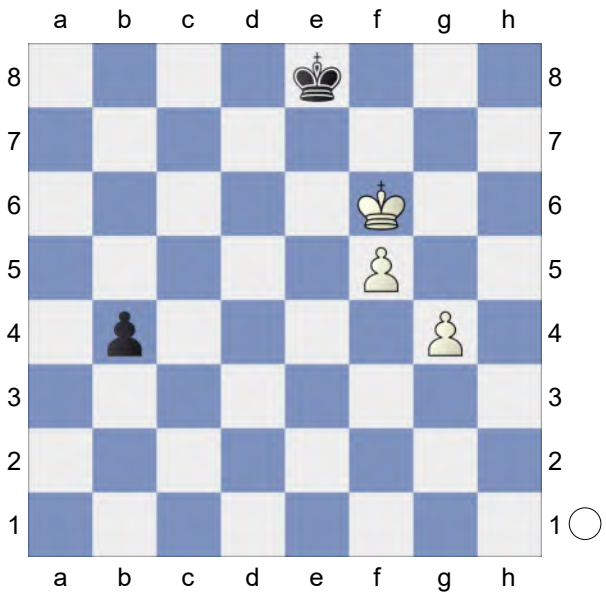
[14...Bc8 15.Rxd8+ Kxd8 16.Rd1+ Ke8 17.g3 Rh7 18.Bxe7 Nxe7 19.Ng5 Rh6 20.h4 c5 21.c3 a5 22.Rd2 Be6 23.Ngxe6 fxe6 24.Kg2 Nc6 25.Re2 Nd8 26.Kh3 Nf7 27.Re3 Kd7 28.f3 b6 29.a3 Spurga,J-Hardicsay,P (2340) Böblingen 1985 MCD [Marin,Mihail] 0-1 (67) Kc6 30.g4 hxg4+ 31.Kxg4 Kd7 32.h5 Rh8 33.Rd3+ Kc6 34.Ng6 Re8 35.f4 b5 36.a4 Nh6+ 37.Kg5 Nf7+ 38.Kh4 b4 39.c4 Nh6 40.Kg5 Nf7+ 41.Kg4 Nh6+ 42.Kh4 Nf7 43.f5 exf5 44.Rd5 Kavakul,M (2775)-Osnos,V (2758) 0:14:33-1:39:33 2012 CBM 160 Extra [FS 12/1979 p311] 1-0 (67)]

15.Rd2 Bc8 16.Rxd8+ Kxd8 17.Rd1+ Ke8 18.e6N And now exf7+ would win.

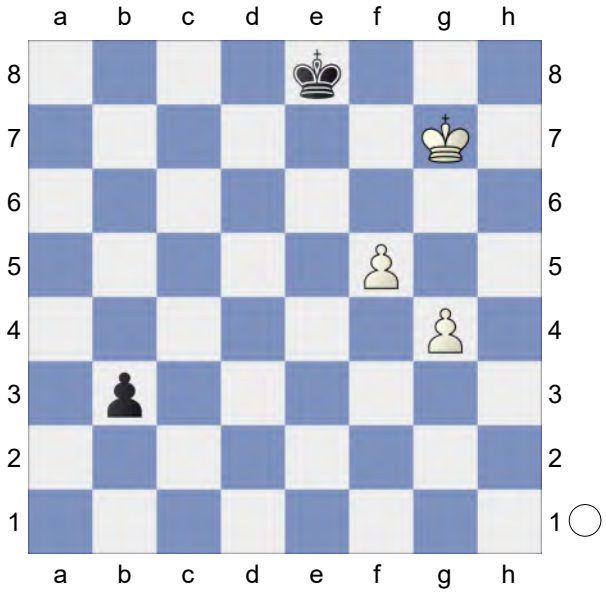
[Vorgänger: 18.Rd3 a5 19.Bxe7 Kxe7 20.Ng5 Re8 21.g4 e6 is the strong threat. hxg3! 22.fxg3 Kf8! 23.g4 Nh4 24.Nf3 -0.14/26 *(⌓24.Kf2* 0.28/25 *)* 24...Nxf3+= 25.Rxf3 ½-½ Arjun,K (2286)-Belyakov,B (2495) Voronezh op-A 20th 2016 (1)]

18...f6 19.Ng6 Rh5⇄ Black is fighting back **20.Bxh4**
[Of course not 20.Nxe7 Kxe7 21.Bf4 Nd6∓]
20...Rh6!
[Don't do 20...Bxe6 21.Nf4! Nxh4 22.Nxh5 Nxf3+ 23.gxf3±]
[But not 20...Nxh4 21.Nfxh4 Bd6 22.Re1±]
21.Nxe7 Kxe7 22.Bg3 Nxg3 23.fxg3 Bxe6= Endgame KRB-KRN **24.Nd4** Threatens to win with Re1. **24...Bd7 25.g4 Rh8 26.Nf5+ Bxf5 27.gxf5±** KR-KR **27...Rh4 28.Rd3 Rf4** 1.18/19
[28...Rc4± 0.39/25]
29.g4± c5 30.Kg2 a5 1.43/21
[⌓30...Ra4 0.96/24]
31.Kg3 Rf1 2.44/22
[31...Re4± 1.31/22]
32.Kh4 c4 33.Rd4 b5 Hoping for ... Ra1. **34.a4** 0.90/25
[34.Kh5!+- 1.62/21]
34...Rf2? 5.25/19 Loses the game.
[34...c6± 0.90/25 is tougher.]
35.axb5+- Rxc2 36.Kh5! Rh2 37.Kg6 Kf8 38.Rd7 Rxh3 39.Rf7+ Ke8 40.Rxc7 Rb3 41.Kxg7 Rxb2 42.Kxf6 Rxb5 43.Rxc4 Rb4 44.Rxb4 White mates. **44...axb4**

(Diagram)



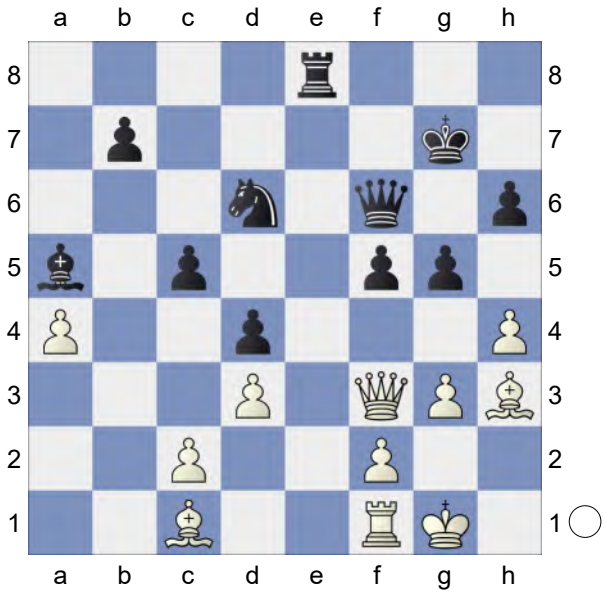
45.Kg7! b3



46.f6! b2 47.f7+ Kd7 48.f8Q b1Q 49.Qf5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.07 (flawless) /Black=0.60
1-0

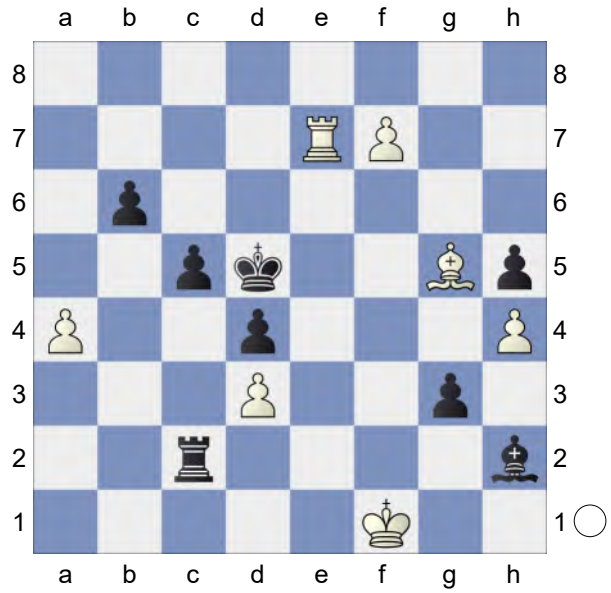
193 **C67**
□ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2726**
■ **Kuzubov,Yuriy** **2625**
AI Cup Div 2 L rapid (2.1) 27.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Ne8 10.Nd5** Black is weak on the light squares **10...Bd6 11.Re1** White has an edge. **11...c6 12.Ne3 Bc7 13.Nf5 d5 14.Ne7+ Kh8 15.Nxc8 Rxc8 16.d3**
[16.g3 Nd6 17.Bh3 f5 18.d3 Qf6 19.c3 Rce8 20.Bd2 Nf7 21.Rxe8 Rxe8 22.Qf1 f4 23.Re1 Rf8 24.Qe2 h6 25.Kh1 Ng5 26.Bg4 Bd6 27.h4 Nh7 28.Kg2 Qg6 29.Bh5 Qf5 30.Bg4 Qg6 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2772)-Carlsen,M (2862) Sinquefield Cup 1st 2013 (5)]
16...f5 16...Nf6 is vanishing. 16...Sf6 scheint zu verschwinden. **17.Qf3**
[17.g3 Nf6 18.Qf3 Ng4 19.d4 Qf6 20.c3 Qg6 21.Bh3 Qh5 22.Kg2 g5 23.Bd2 Rf7 24.Re6 Rcf8 25.Rae1 Ne3+ 26.Qxe3 g4 27.Rh6 gxh3+ 28.Kg1 Qg4 29.Qe2 Rg8 30.f3 Qg7 31.Rxh3 f4 0-1 Deac,B (2700)-Firouzja,A (2785) Bucharest Superbet Classic 3rd 2023 (4)]
17...Qf6N Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[17...Qd7 18.Bf4 Nf6 19.Bxc7 Qxc7 20.Re6 g6 21.Rae1 Rfe8 22.Rxe8+ Nxe8 23.Qe3 a6 24.c4 Nf6 25.Qd4 Kg7 26.Re6 Qf7 27.cxd5 Rd8 28.Qe3 Nxd5 29.Qe5+ Kh6 30.g3 Rd7 31.Bg2 Nc7 32.Rf6 0-1 4.d4 ♘f6 5. ♗c4 (2736)-Panov Botvinnik Attack (2793) FIDE GP Moscow rapid 2002 (1.16)]
18.Rb1 Nd6 19.b4N -0.28/19
[Vorgänger: 19.Bf4 Nf7 Against Bf4-e5 20.Bxc7 Rxc7 21.Qe3 a6 22.Qe6 Nd6 23.Qxf6 Rxf6 24.Re5 g6 25.Rbe1 ½-½ Nisipeanu,L (2661)-Aronian,L (2780) Olympiad-43 Batumi 2018 (11.1)]
[White should try 19.Bf4± 0.44/19]
19...Rce8 0.25/19
[19...Nb5! -0.28/19]
20.Rxe8= Rxe8 21.Bb2 Prevents Qf6-c3. **21...d4 22.g3 a5 23.bxa5 Bxa5 24.a4 c5 25.h4 h6 26.Bh3 g6 27.Rf1 Kg7 28.Bc1 g5**



Prevents Bc1-f4. **29.Bg2 Kg6 30.Qd5 b6 31.Bf3 Nf7 32.Qd7** 0.01/21
[32.Bd1± 0.38/21 might be stronger.]
32...Qe6
[32...Qe7 simplifies 33.Qc6+ Qe6 34.Qxe6+ Rxe6 35.Bd1 g4]
33.Qb7⇄ White puts up resistance **33...Ne5 34.Bd5** This pair of bishops is nice. **34...Qe7 35.Qxe7 Rxe7 36.f4 Ng4 37.Bf3**
[37.hxg5? Ne3 38.Bxe3 dxe3-+]
37...gxh4 38.Bxg4 fxg4∓
Endgame KRB-KRB. Black is a pawn up.
39.f5+ Kf7 40.gxh4 h5 41.Bg5 Re2

42.Rf2 Re1+ 43.Kg2 Re8 44.f6 -0.66/24
[44.Rf4= -0.23/21]
44...Re5 45.Kg1 -1.37/24
[⌓45.Bf4 -0.76/24 Re8 46.Bc7]
45...Be1∓ 46.Rf1 Re2 47.Rf5 Bg3 0.01/23 Black has more active pieces.
[Black should try 47...Rxc2∓ -1.43/22 and ...Be1-b4 should not be overlooked 48.Re5 Bf2+ 49.Kh1 Be3 50.Re7+ Kf8]
48.Rd5= Threatens to win with Rd5-d7+.
48...Bh2+ 1.39/22
[48...Rxc2= -0.01/23 49.Rd7+ Ke6 50.Re7+ Kd6]
49.Kf1± Rxc2 50.Rd7+ Ke6? 4.17/24
[50...Kg6± 1.35/24]
51.Re7++-
[51.f7 g3 52.Re7+ *(52.f8Q? g2+ 53.Ke1 g1Q+ 54.Qf1 Bg3+* Deflection *55.Kd1 Qxf1+-+; 52.f8N+ Ke5∓)* 52...Kd5+-]
51...Kd5 52.f7 g3



(→ ...g3-g2+) **53.Re2** 0.01/19
[53.f8B? is a self mate. g2+ 54.Ke1 g1Q#]
[53.Bd2!+- 2.95/23 Rxd2 *(53...g2+? 54.Kxg2 Rxd2+ 55.Kf1+-)* 54.f8Q *(54.f8B g2+ 55.Ke1 Rxd3 56.Rd7+ Kc4 57.Rg7 Bg3+ 58.Rxg3 Rxg3 59.Ke2 g1Q 60.Bd6 Qh2+ 61.Kf1 Rg1#)* 54...Rf2+ 55.Qxf2 gxf2 56.Rh7 *(56.Kxf2 c4+-)*]
53...Rxe2= Remove Defender **54.Kxe2** KB-KB. Black is a pawn up.
[54.f8R? Ra2 *(54...g2+ 55.Kxe2 g1Q 56.Kd2-+)* 55.Rd8+ Kc6-+]
54...g2 55.f8Q White threatens Qf8-f3+ and mate.
[55.f8R? too greedy. g1Q *(55...g1R 56.Rf5+ Kc6 57.Rf6+ Kb7 58.Rh6=)* 56.a5 bxa5-+]
55...g1Q KQB-KQB. Black is a pawn up.
56.Qa8+ Ke6 57.Qc8+ White has compensation. **57...Kd5 58.Qb7+ Ke5 59.Qe7+** 0.62/5
[59.Qc7+= 0.22/26 Kd5 60.Qd7+ *(60.Qxb6 Qg4+ 61.Kd2 Bf4+ 62.Bxf4 Qxf4+ 63.Kc2 Qxh4=)* 60...Ke5 61.Qe7+ Kd5 62.Qd7+]
59...Kd5± 60.Qb7+ Ke5 61.Qb8+ Kd5 62.Qg8+ Kc6 Dancing on a razor blade. **63.Qa8+ Kc7 64.Qa7+ Kc6 65.Qa8+ Kd7 66.Qd5+ Bd6 67.Bf4?** -6.50/24
[67.Qf7+= 0.01/23 Kc8 68.Qxh5]
67...Qg4+-+ Black is clearly winning. **68.Ke1 Qxf4 69.Qxh5 Qe5+ 70.Qxe5 Bxe5** KB-K3P **71.Kd2 Ke6 72.Kc2 Bg3 73.h5 Kf6 74.Kb3 Be1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.20 (precise)
0-1

194 **C65**
□ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2713**
■ **So,Wesley** **2760**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.26)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 The following is a model game in the 4. d3 Anti-Berlin variation between Anand and Wesley So from the 2019 Tata Steel Rapid & Blitz. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.0-0 Bd6 8.Ng5N** 8.Nb3 is a critical line. 8.Sb3 ist die kritische Fortsetzung.

[8.b3 Nd7 *(8...Qe7 9.Bb2 Nd7 10.Qe2 0-0-0 11.d4 Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.Qe3 exd4 14.Nxd4 Bg6 15.Rfe1 f6 16.a3 a6 17.Nc4 Bc5 18.b4 Nb6 19.Na5 Bd6 20.Rad1 Rhe8 21.Qf3 c5 22.e5 c6 23.exd6* Sikorova,J (2736)-8.?h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2603) Baku 2023 Steinitz/Chigorin [John Watson] 1-0 (40) *)* 9.Nc4 Qe7 10.a4 a5 11.Ne3 g6 12.Kh1 b6 0.10/18 *(⌓12...f5* -0.24/17 *)* 13.Nd2 0-0 14.Ndc4 Bc5 15.Bb2 f6 0-1 (79) Abdusattorov,N (2713)-So,W (2760) Chess.com INT 2022]

[8.d4 Nd7 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.f4 Bd4+ *(11...Qd4+ 12.Kh1 Bd6 13.Qe2 0-0-0 14.c3 Qc5 15.f5 Bd7 16.Nc4 Rhe8 17.b4 Qb5 18.a4 Qa6 19.Bg5 f6 20.Rfb1 fxg5 21.b5 cxb5 22.axb5 Bxb5 23.Rxa6 Bxa6 24.Nxd6+ Rxd6 25.Qg4* Leko,P (2674)-Wang,H (2735) Hengshui (rapid) 140/(129) 2019 140 Games Section [Milanovic,Danilo]*)* 12.Kh1 f5 13.Qe2 *(13.Qh5+ g6 14.Qe2 0-0 15.Nf3 Bf6 16.e5 Be7 17.Rd1 Qe8 18.Nd4 Qf7 19.Nxe6 Qxe6 20.Be3 Rad8 21.c4 a6 22.b3 Kf7 23.h3 h5 24.Bf2 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 Rd8 26.Rxd8 Bxd8 27.Qe1 Qe7* Key Middlegame Themes-Model Game (50) *)* 13...0-0 14.Rd1 Qe7 15.Nf3 Bc5 16.Re1 Rae8 17.exf5 Bd5 18.Ne5 Rxf5 19.c4 Be6 20.Bd2 Bd6 21.Rf1 Ref8 22.b3 Bxe5 Robson,R (2668)-Nakamura,H (2793) United States 2017 132 Games Section [Ehlvest,Jaan] (65)]

8...Bg4 9.Ngf3 Nd7N

[Vorgänger: 9...0-0 10.b3 Re8 11.Bb2 Qd7 12.Re1 Rad8 13.Qc1 -0.32/19 *(13.h3=* 0.19/17 *Bxf3 14.Qxf3)* 13...Nh5∓ 14.g3 Against Nf4 Bh3 15.Qd1 Qg4 16.Nh4 Qg5 17.Ndf3 Qf6 1-0 (45) Da Silva Filho,P (2101)-Melo,R (2256) Lichess.org INT 2020]

10.Nc4 f6 11.Ne3 Bh5 12.Kh1

[12.Nf5 is more complex. 0-0 13.c3 Nc5 14.Ng3]

12...Bf7 0.09/17

[12...Nf8∓ -0.31/17 was preferrable.]

13.Nh4 g6 14.g3 Qe7 15.a4 a5 16.Bd2 b6 17.Qe2 Nc5 18.Bc3 Ne6 19.Nc4 -0.51/19

[19.f4= -0.16/19 is superior.]

19...Bb4 20.f4 Nd4 0.10/19

[20...exf4∓ -0.52/21 21.gxf4 Bxc3 22.bxc3 0-0-0]

21.Bxd4 -0.77/20

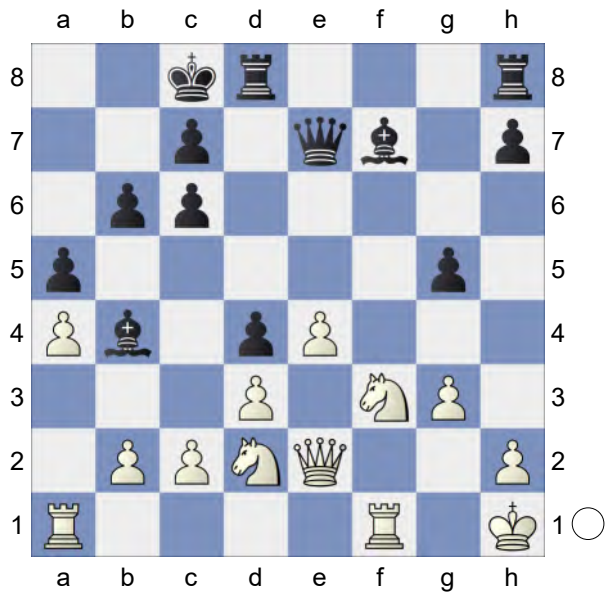
[21.Qf2!= 0.10/19 remains equal. Bxc4 22.fxe5 fxe5 23.Bxd4]

21...exd4∓ 22.Nf3 0-0-0 23.Ncd2 g5 -0.11/20

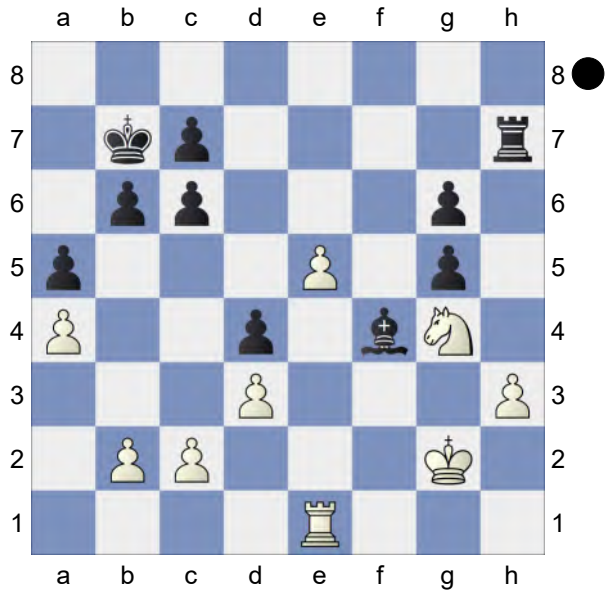
[23...Rhe8∓ -0.80/16]

24.fxg5= fxg5

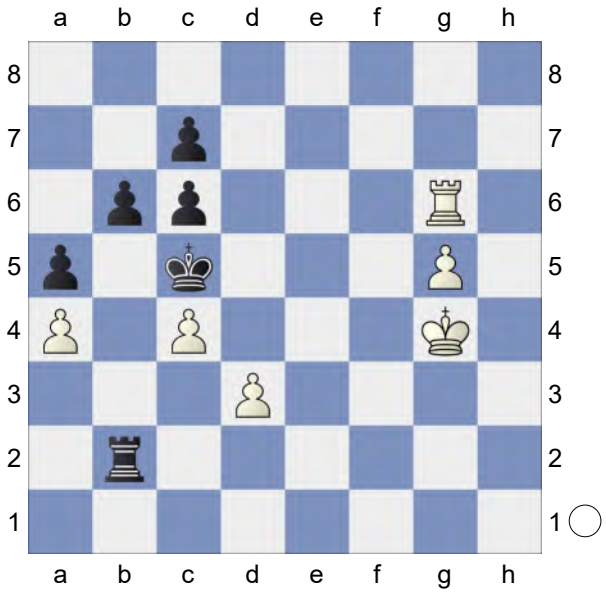
(Diagram)



25.Ne5! Be8 26.Rf5 Kb7 27.Raf1 Bg6 28.Nxg6 hxg6 29.Rf7 Qe5 30.Nc4 -0.51/22
[White should try 30.Kg1± 0.44/20]
30...Qxg3!∓ 31.Qg2 -0.91/22
[31.e5∓ -0.33/20]
31...Qxg2+∓ 32.Kxg2 Rh6 0.01/22
[32...Rh4∓ -0.77/21]
33.Ne5= Rdh8 34.Rh1 Bd6 35.Ng4 Rh4 36.h3 Bf4 37.e5 R4h7 38.Rxh7 Rxh7 Endgame KRB-KRN **39.Re1!**



Kc8 0.10/24
[39...c5!∓ -0.89/22 40.e6 Re7]
40.e6 Kd8 41.Nf6 Rg7 42.Kf3 -0.90/24
[42.Nd7∓ -0.43/23]
42...Ke7∓ 43.Nd7 Rh7 44.Kg2 Kd6 0.00/23
[44...g4∓ -1.01/22 45.hxg4 Rh2+ 46.Kf3 Bd6]
45.Nf8!= Rg7 aiming for ...Be3. **46.Kf3** -1.17/24
[46.e7= 0.00/23 Rxe7 47.Rxe7 Kxe7 48.Nxg6+ Kf6 49.Nxf4 gxf4 50.h4]
46...Be3∓ And now ...Ke7 would win.
47.Kg4 Ke7 -0.01/23
[47...Rg8∓ -1.04/23 48.Nh7 c5]
48.Rf1= Bf4 49.h4 Kxf8 50.hxg5 Ke7 51.Rxf4 Kxe6 52.Rxd4 KR-KR
52...Rh7 53.Rf4 Black must now prevent Rf6+. **53...Rh2** 0.38/24
[53...Rf7= 0.01/24]
54.Rf6+± Kd5 55.c4+
[Don't play 55.Rxg6?! Rxc2 56.Rg7 Rxb2=]
55...Kc5 56.Rxg6 Rxb2



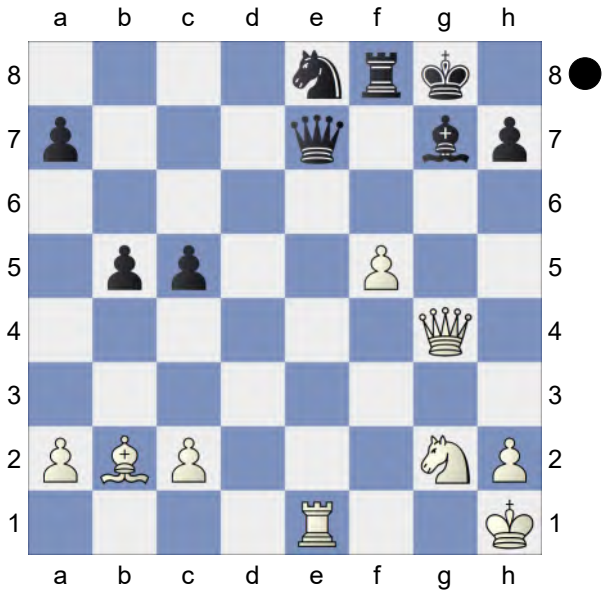
57.Rf6 0.52/22
[Better is 57.d4+!± 1.04/22 Kxc4 58.Rxc6+ Kxd4 59.Rxc7]
57...b5 58.cxb5 0.01/24
[58.axb5± 0.41/21 cxb5 59.Rf5+ Kd6 60.g6 *(60.cxb5 a4=; 60.Rxb5 Rxb5*

61.cxb5 Ke7=)]
58...cxb5= 59.Rf5+ Kd6 60.axb5 a4 61.Rf6+ Ke7 1.02/24
[61...Kc5= 0.01/20]
62.Ra6± Rxb5 63.Rxa4 Rf4 is the strong threat. **63...Rd5 64.Re4+** 0.01/29
[64.d4± 1.00/26]
64...Kf7= 65.d4 c5 66.Rf4+ Kg7 67.dxc5 Rxc5 68.Kh5 Rc6 69.Re4 Rc7 70.Re6 Rb7 71.Rg6+ Kh7 72.Rf6 Kg7 73.Rh6 Rc7 74.Rg6+ Kh7 75.Rb6 Rd7 76.g6+ 0.00/32
[76.Rh6+± 0.33/30 Kg7 77.Re6]
76...Kg7 The position is equal. **77.Rb5 Re7 78.Kg5 Rd7 79.Rf5 Rc7 80.Rf7+ Rxf7 81.gxf7 Kxf7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) / Black=0.21 (precise)
½-½

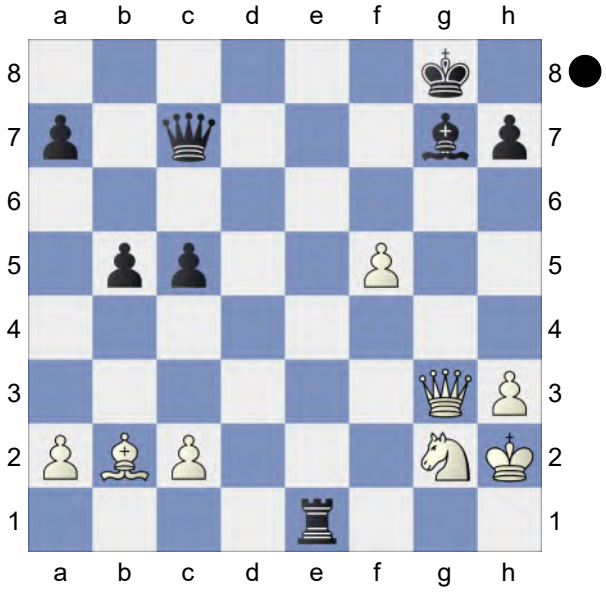
195 **C65**
□ **Abdusattorov,Nodirbek** **2713**
■ **So,Wesley** **2760**
Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz (1.36)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.0-0 Bd6** 0.33/19
[7...Nd7= 0.00/18]
8.b3 White is slightly better. **8...Nd7 9.Nc4**
[9.Bb2 c5 10.Nc4 f6 11.Nh4 g6 12.g3 Qe7 13.f4 0-0-0 14.fxe5 fxe5 15.Qe2 Rhf8 16.Nf3 Bh3 17.Rf2 Rf7 18.Bc1 Re8 19.Bh6 Be6 20.Qd2 Bg4 21.Raf1 Rxf3 22.Rxf3 Bxf3 23.Rxf3 Qe6 Neumann,J (2638)-5.?b3 c5 6.a3 (2556) United States 2023 Colle NS [John Watson] 1-0 (70)]
9...Qe7! is recently more successful than 9...Bxc4. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 9...Lxc4.
[9...Bxc4 10.bxc4 0-0 11.Be3 Qe7 12.c3 b5 13.cxb5 cxb5 14.a4 a6 15.Qc2 c5 16.axb5 axb5 17.Qb3 b4 18.Nd2 h6 19.h3 Rfb8 20.Rfb1 Qd8 21.Nc4 Bf8 22.Bd2 Qc7 Adams,M (2758)-Giri,A (2768) Deutschland 123/(114) 2015 CI1-130 [Tadic,Branko]]
10.Ng5N -0.15/18
[10.a4 a5 11.Ne3 -0.09/16 *(11.Nxd6+* 0.30/19 is superior. *cxd6 12.Ba3)* 11...g6 12.Kh1 b6 13.Nd2 0-0 14.Ndc4 Bc5 15.Bb2 f6 16.Qe1 Bb4 17.Qe2 b5 0-1 (79) Abdusattorov,N (2713)-So,W (2760) Chess.com INT 2022]
[⌓10.Nxd6+ 0.16/19 cxd6 11.d4]
[10.Bg5 f6 11.Bd2 0-0-0 12.Rb1 h5 13.Ne3 g5 14.b4 c5 15.c4 cxb4 16.Qa4 Kb8 17.Nd5 Nb6 18.Qa5 Nxd5 19.exd5 b6 20.Bxb4 Bxb4 21.Rxb4 Ka8 22.Qa3 Bc8 23.Rfb1 Bb7 24.d4 g4 9.f3 c6 10.?b3_68180 (2596)-Rudolph,J (2598) Nikea 2019 54 B65 [Dragan Solak] ½-½ (33)]
10...Bxc4= 11.bxc4 0-0N
[Vorgänger: 11...h6 12.Nf3 0-0-0 13.Rb1 b6 14.c3 Rhf8 15.Be3 Kb7 16.Nd2 Nc5 17.Qc2 Ne6 1-0 (43) Svidler,P (2694)-Nakamura,H (2736) Chess.com INT 2021]
12.Nf3 b5 13.cxb5 cxb5 14.g3 Nc5 15.Nh4 g6 16.Ng2
[16.Bh6 with more complications. Rfe8 17.Qg4 Qe6 18.Nf5]
16...Ne6 17.f4 -0.55/20
[17.Bh6= -0.09/18]
17...f5 18.Bb2 -0.91/20
[18.exf5∓ -0.45/19 might be stronger.

Rxf5 19.Nh4 Bc5+ 20.Kg2]
18...exf4∓ 19.gxf4 fxe4! 20.dxe4 Rad8 -0.16/21
[Resist 20...Nxf4 21.Rxf4! Bxf4 22.Qd5+ Qf7 23.Nxf4 Qxd5 24.Nxd5±]
[Black should try 20...Bxf4∓ -1.20/20 White must now prevent ...Be5! 21.Nxf4 *(21.Qd5 Rad8∓)* 21...Rxf4]
21.Qg4= Bc5+ 0.01/22
[21...Rf7∓ -0.32/20 feels stronger.]
22.Kh1 Bd4 23.Ba3 -0.86/21 **c5↑** White is under pressure. &Nero is much more active. **24.Rad1** -0.95/21
[24.Rae1∓ -0.64/20]
24...Bg7 -0.24/20
[24...b4∓ -0.95/21 25.Bc1 Ng7]
25.f5 -0.62/21
[25.Rxd8!= -0.24/20 Nxd8 26.f5]
25...Rxd1∓ 26.Rxd1 gxf5 0.01/20
[26...Nd4∓ -0.65/20 27.fxg6 hxg6]
27.exf5= Nc7 28.Bb2 Against Qe5. f6 is the strong threat. **28...Ne8** Against f6 **29.Re1** -0.83/19
[29.Rd5= -0.01/20]



29...Qb7 0.41/20
[Black should play 29...Qd7!∓ -0.83/19]
30.Rxe8?? -2.42/20 This move loses the game for White. **30...Rxe8-+ 31.h3?** -7.42/23
[31.Kg1 -2.91/21 Qd7 32.h3]
31...Re1+ Black is clearly winning.
32.Kh2 Qc7+ 33.Qg3



Qxg3+ -5.74/5
[⌓33...Rh1+!! -13.68/23 34.Kxh1 Qxg3 35.Bxg7 Qxh3+ 36.Kg1 Kxg7]
34.Kxg3 Re2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.87/Black=0.46
0-1

196 **C67**
□ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2693**
■ **Moussard,Jules** **2654**
Biel Rapid 56th (7) 16.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Stamenkovic,Zoran: 'Seirawan, Yasser: 'While both players have much to lament, each receiving a sympathetic ear, let's face it: The arbiters have been brilliant. They have been out of sight and nary a word about them has been spoken. Out of the spotlight they have

treble checked that bane of all chess players - the clock. The battery is functioning (good), the time control has been set to the right one (very good), the board and pieces have been set up correctly (most excellent). And so it all comes down to this: After eleven hard fought games the twelfth and final game would be played for all the marbles. I wanted to describe the situation as high drama. But my 'Spidey sense' began to tingle as I considered the word. Blessed with a heightened sense of caution I decided to look up the current definition of the word. You see the English language changes. Nearly every day in fact. Just like the FIDE rules committee that loves to change the rules of chess, so to do the committees that define words in the English language. It can get pretty confusing. To assuage my internal warnings I double-checked and learned something new while bringing myself up-to-date: drama: Top definition: "Something women and especially teenage girls thrive on. Consisting of any number of situations that have an easy solution, which would bring a fairly good outcome, but these girls choose another, shitty, bad way to deal with it, again consisting of backstabbing, blackmailing/gossiping/ betraying their friends, or the all-too-common, "I want to break up with him but I still love him!" It drives men and what I like to call "normal" girls nuts." Urban Dictionary. Hmm. Right. Just as expected a surprising change. Oh boy, I'm already in trouble and this is before annotating move one. Somehow, I can't quite put my finger on it but the (for me) new definition just feels a tiny bit to be politically incorrect. I confess I'm not the most astute in such matters. Therefore, let us put high drama aside for a moment and instead set up the situation from a different point of view... Many fans and even non-fans have asked me the question, "What makes one grandmaster stronger than another?" A fair question. Once when describing himself against his colleagues World Champion Mikhail Botvinnik saw himself, "As first amongst equals." It seems the top grandmasters know all the various chess skills and instead to find an answer to such a question we should consider the intangibles: Confidence; ambition; determination; good health; a supportive team; good food; a strong stomach; a working internet connection; staying regular and other key factors. The twelfth game would require a supreme effort by both players featuring nerves of steel coupled with boundless energy. They would before the gong imagine a long, hard fought game where conquering their nerves and remaining calm at those crucial moments is vital. They would review their preparation to the best of their abilities while hoping to out-calculate their opponent in the heat of battle. Doing all the things that grandmasters do so well. But there is another intangible to consider as well: At such a moment are you capable of getting a good night's sleep? Don't laugh. It is an important question. Imagine yourself in the role of Challenger Sergey Karjakin. You are to have a career defining moment. An opportunity to become World Chess Champion. A dream come true. With so many thoughts and emotions racing through your mind, will you be able to recharge your battery for the biggest contest of

your life? But which player is carrying the bigger pressure? Same questions for Magnus Carlsen, the World Champion. Experts, pollsters and fans had all been unanimous predicting an easy match win. They were stone-cold wrong. Lucky to be at a level score, what risks should Magnus take to try to clinch the match? To go all in as White in the final game? As did Veselin Topalov with White against Viswanathan Anand in 2010? A decision which cost him the match... So many questions. So many worries and all you really want is to rest and recharge your battery. To sleep peacefully with pleasant dreams of victory. Perhaps such an ability, that one, to cast aside your concerns and get a good night sleep, is what makes one grandmaster stronger than another? Before the battle commenced, I wondered, would we see a real drama? Wait, now I'm certain that's not the word I want to use. In this preamble I've got it all wrong entangling myself in knots. I think National Basketball Association legend Michael Jordan said it best at such moments, "Go out and just enjoy the game. Don't think about the consequences. If you do, you'll freeze."" Stamenkovic,Zoran: 'Seirawan,Yasser: 'While both players have much to lament, each receiving a sympathetic ear, let's face it: The arbiters have been brilliant. They have been out of sight and nary a word about them has been spoken. Out of the spotlight they have treble checked that bane of all chess players - the clock. The battery is functioning (good), the time control has been set to the right one (very good), the board and pieces have been set up correctly (most excellent). And so it all comes down to this: After eleven hard fought games the twelfth and final game would be played for all the marbles. I wanted to describe the situation as high drama. But my 'Spidey sense' began to tingle as I considered the word. Blessed with a heightened sense of caution I decided to look up the current definition of the word. You see the English language changes. Nearly every day in fact. Just like the FIDE rules committee that loves to change the rules of chess, so to do the committees that define words in the English language. It can get pretty confusing. To assuage my internal warnings I double-checked and learned something new while bringing myself up-to-date: drama: Top definition: "Something women and especially teenage girls thrive on. Consisting of any number of situations that have an easy solution, which would bring a fairly good outcome, but these girls choose another, shitty, bad way to deal with it, again consisting of backstabbing, blackmailing/gossiping/betraying their friends, or the all-too-common, "I want to break up with him but I still love him!" It drives men and what I like to call "normal" girls nuts." Urban Dictionary. Hmm. Right. Just as expected a surprising change. Oh boy, I'm already in trouble and this is before annotating move one. Somehow, I can't quite put my finger on it but the (for me) new definition just feels a tiny bit to be politically incorrect. I confess I'm not the most astute in such matters. Therefore, let us put high drama aside for a moment and instead set up the situation from a different point of view... Many fans and even non-fans have asked me the question, "What makes one

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1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Qc3

[13.c3 d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Na3 c6 16.Nc2 Ng7 17.Qd2 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Ne3 Nxe3 20.Qxe3 Qe7 21.Qxe7 Bxe7 22.Re1 Bf8 23.Kf1 f6 24.g4 Kf7 25.h3 Re8 26.Rxe8 Kxe8 27.Ke2 Kd7 Carlsen,M (2853)-Karjakin,S (2772) New York 2016 CI1-130 [Stamenkovic,Zoran] ½-½]

13...d5 14.Nd2 Bf5N

[14...c6 15.Re1 g6 16.Nb3 Ng7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Nc5 Bxe5 19.Rxe5 Qd6 20.Nxe6 Bxe6 21.h4 Re8 22.g3 f6 23.Re3 Kf7 24.Qa5 a6 25.Bd3 Re7 26.Qd2 h5 27.Qe1 Qd7

28.a4 Re8 29.a5 Predein,V (2584)-Jimenez G,G (2661) Wijk 2023 Chess Today CT-827 [John Watson] 1-0 (53)]

15.Re1 c6 16.Nb3 Nc7 17.Be5 Ne6 18.Na5 Qe7 19.b4 -0.15/20

[White should play 19.Bxf6± 0.47/22 gxf6 20.Nb3]

19...Be4= 20.Nb3 Rd8 21.a3 Bxe5 22.dxe5 d4 23.Qd2 Bd5 24.Nc1

[24.f4 seems wilder. Qh4 25.g3 Qg4 26.Be2]

24...c5 25.f4 g6 26.Ne2 -0.63/20

[26.bxc5!= -0.25/22 Qxc5 27.Bd3]

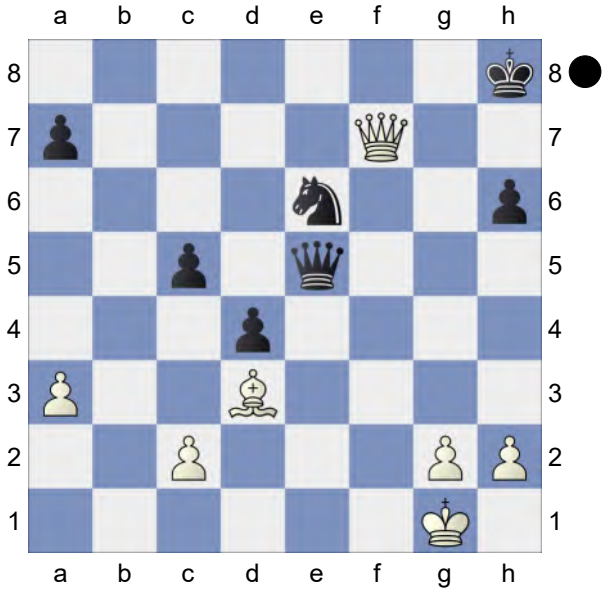
26...b6 &Nero is more active. **27.f5 gxf5 28.Ng3! f4 29.Nh5 Qg5** -0.83/22

[29...Qh4∓ -0.52/22 might be stronger. 30.Nf6+ Kg7]

30.Nf6+∓ Kg7 31.Qf2! Kh8 32.Bd3 h6 33.bxc5 bxc5 34.Nxd5 Rxd5 35.Qe2 f3 0.01/24

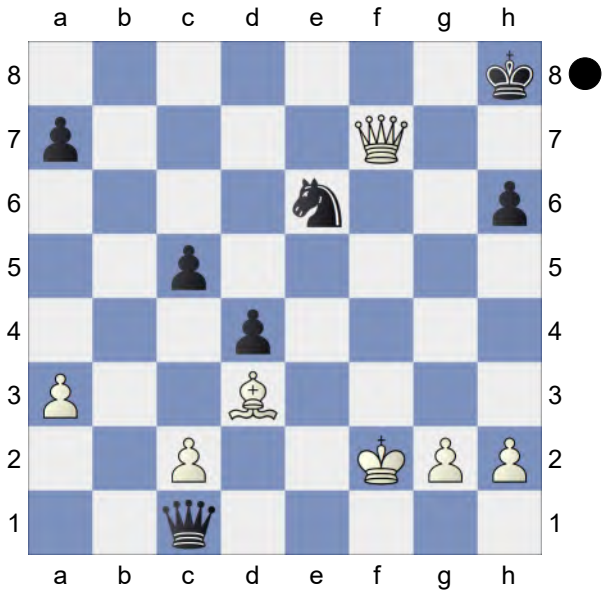
[Black should try 35...Kg7!∓ -0.59/22]

36.Qxf3→ White attacks. **36...Rxe5 37.Rxe5** The position is equal. **37...Qxe5 38.Qxf7**



Qe3+ 39.Kf1 Qc1+ 40.Kf2 Qe3+ 41.Kf1 Qc1+ 42.Kf2

(Diagram)



Qe3+ 43.Kf1 Qc1+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless) . Loss on time!?

0-1

197 **C67**

□ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2653**

■ **So,Wesley** **2766**

Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early ..

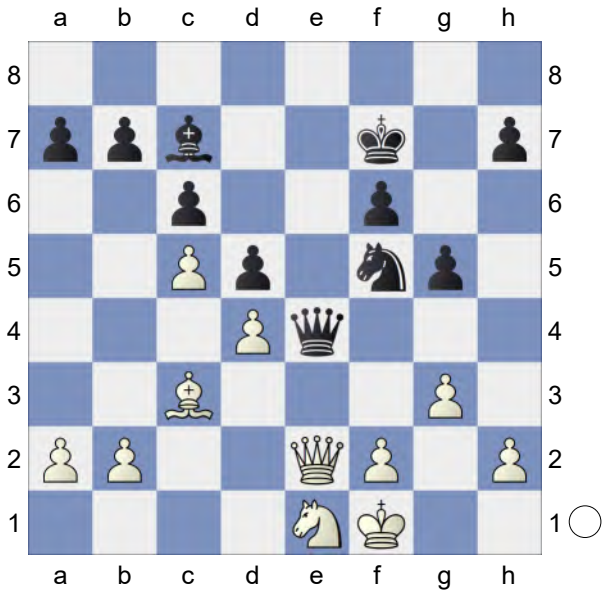
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 0-0 9.d4 d5** White has an edge. **10.c3 Re8!** now scores much better than the old 10... Bd6. punktet besser als das ältere 10... Ld6. **11.Bd3**

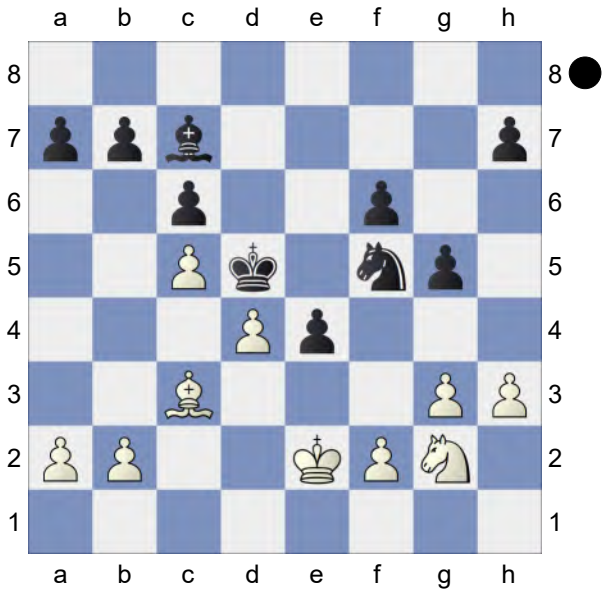
[11.Bf4 Bd6 12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Bxd6 Nxd6 14.Nbd2 Ne7 15.Qe2 Bf5 16.Re1 Ng6 17.Qxe8+ Nxe8 18.h4 Kf8 19.g3 Nd6 20.Bg2 f6 21.Nf1 c6 22.N3d2 Ne7 23.Ne3 Bd3 24.Bh3 a5 25.Ng2 Bf5 Bierre-Deac,B [GM Kiril Georgiev] (57)]

11...Bd6 12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Nbd2 13.Qc2 is not played anymore. 13.Dc2 wird inzwischen seltener gespielt. **13...Nce7N**
[13...Bd7 14.Nf1 f6 15.Qc2 g6 16.Qb3 Nce7 17.c4 dxc4 18.Bxc4+ Kg7 19.g4 Nh6 20.g5 fxg5 21.Nxg5 Nhf5 22.d5 Nd4 23.Qd3 Nef5 24.Bd2 b5 25.Re1 Qf8 26.Bb3 b4 27.Ng3 Nxb3 28.Qxb3 6 Chapter-Games Game]
14.Nf1 c6 15.Qc2 f6 16.Bd2 g6N
[Predecessor: 16...Qh5 17.Re1 Bd7 18.Ng3 Nxg3! 19.hxg3 Re8 20.Nh4 Kh8 21.Be2 Qf7 22.Bd3 -0.01/21 *(22.c4± 0.44/21)* 22...Qh5= 23.Be2 -0.01/22 *(*White should play *23.b3±* 0.72/21 *)* 23...Qf7= 24.Bd3 -0.01/20 *(24.Nf3± 0.51/20)* 24...Qh5 ½-½ (24) Leko,P (2674)-Andreikin,D (2722) Hengshui 2019]
17.Re1 Ng7 18.c4 Bg4 19.c5 Bc7 20.Nh4 Qd7 21.Bh6 0.01/21
[Better is 21.Ne3± 0.55/19 Bh5 22.h3]
21...Re8 22.Bd2 -0.07/22
[⌓22.Bxg7 0.30/19 Kxg7 23.h3]
22...Kf7 23.Ne3 Be6 24.g3 Bh3 25.Bc3 g5 26.Nf3 Nef5 27.Nxf5 Rxe1+ 28.Nxe1 Nxf5 0.42/21
[28...Bxf5= -0.01/25 29.Qa4 Bxd3 30.Nxd3 a6]
29.Bf1 -0.23/22
[29.Qb3± 0.42/21 b6 30.Qa4 bxc5 31.dxc5]
29...Bxf1= 30.Kxf1 Qe6 -0.01/22
[30...h5∓ -0.34/21 feels stronger.]
31.Qe2 -0.33/21
[31.Qb3= -0.01/22 is superior. b5 32.a4]
31...Qe4∓

(Diagram)



(→ ...Qh1#) **32.Qxe4 dxe4** Endgame KBN-KBN **33.Ke2 Ke6** &Nero is more active. **34.Ng2** -1.10/26
[White should try 34.Nc2∓ -0.70/22]
34...Kd5∓ 35.h3? -3.26/24
[35.Ne3+∓ -1.14/25 might work better. Nxe3 36.fxe3]

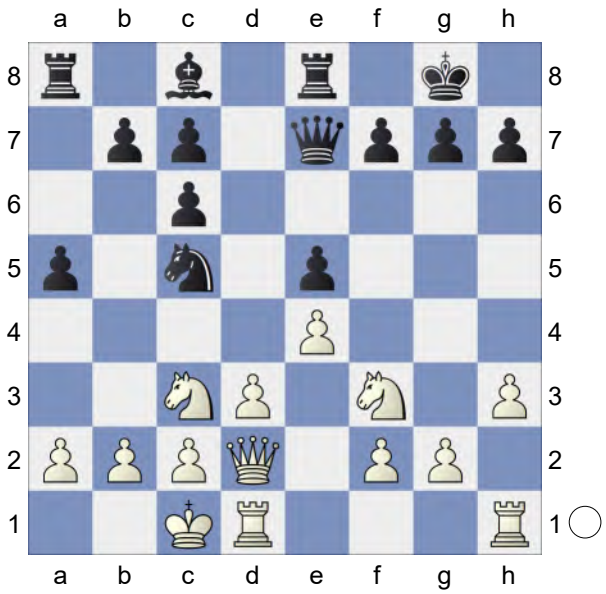


White does not recover from this. **35...Nxd4+-+ 36.Ke3 Be5 37.g4 Ne6** Black is clearly winning. **38.Kd2 Bxc3+ 39.Kxc3 Nxc5** aiming for ...Nd3. **40.Ne3+ Ke5 41.Kc4 Nd3 42.b4 Nxf2**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/ Black=0.09 (flawless)
0-1

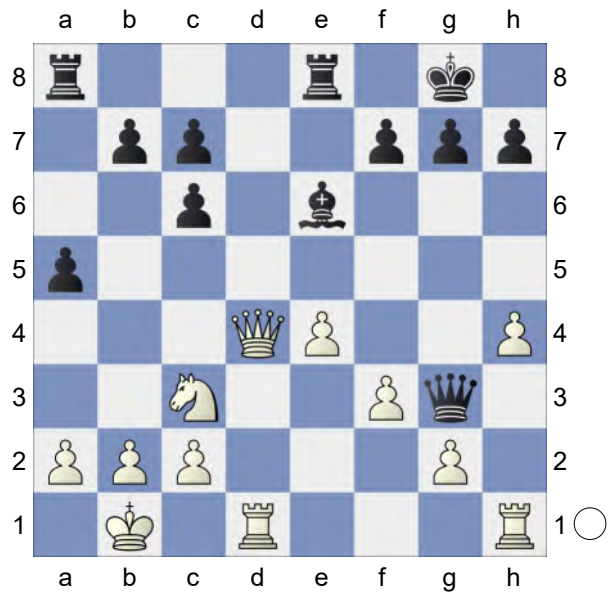
198 **C65**
□ **slowandviolent** **3066**
■ **DrNykterstein** **3214**
Blitz 16.04.2022
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min+2sec C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Sutovsky,E: 'Inf 92/320' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Be3 Qe7**
[6...Bd6 7.h3 Nd7 8.Nbd2 0-0 9.Qe2 *(9.0-0 c5 10.Nc4 b5 11.Ncd2 Nb8 12.a4 b4 13.Nb3 Qe7 14.Na5 Bd7 15.Nd2 Nc6 16.Nxc6 Bxc6 17.Qe2 Rae8 18.f3 Bd7 19.Rfc1 Be6 20.c3* Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence (2585)-6. ♗e3 ♗d6 7.h3 ♘d7 (2615) Survey 2018 Lexikon18 [Ftacnik,L]*)* 9...Re8 10.0-0-0 Qe7 11.g4 Nc5 12.Kb1 Na4 13.Nc4 b5 14.Nxd6 cxd6 15.Qd2 c5 16.Nh4 b4 17.Nf5 Qe6 18.Qe2 d5 19.Bd2 d4 20.Rdf1 Rb8 21.Ka1 Roehrich,S (2753)-Ernst,H (2761) Baku 2017 200 Traps In The Opening [Hens, Bernhard] 0-1 (36)]
7.h3N
[7.Bxc5 Qxc5 8.Nc3 Bg4 9.h3 Bxf3 10.Qxf3 0-0 11.0-0-0 a5 12.Qf5 Rfd8 13.Rhf1 a4 14.a3 b5 15.f4 Nd7 16.Na2 g6 17.Qg5 f6 18.Qg4 Qd6 19.f5 Kh8 20.fxg6 Rg8 21.Nb4 Rxg6 Sutovsky,E (2669)-Aronian,L (2684) Gibraltar 2005 CI1-130 [Sutovsky,Emil] ½-½ (46) 22.Qf3 c5 23.Nd5 b4 24.g4 Nb6 25.Nxf6 Rf8 26.g5 Nd7 27.Qe3 Nxf6 28.gxf6 Rgxf6 29.Rxf6 Rxf6 30.Rg1 Qf8 31.Qg3 Rf4 32.Kb1 Rf1+ 33.Rxf1 Qxf1+ 34.Ka2 Qf7+ 35.b3 axb3+ 36.cxb3 Qf4 2 b4 and 2 a3 (2669)-C 06/32 (2684) USSR (ch) 50/523 2005 Telechess CBM 89 [AN Smith/FP Foldvary] ½-½ (46)]
[7.Nbd2 Bxe3 8.fxe3 Ng4 9.Qe2 f6 10.0-0-0 Be6 11.Kb1 0-0-0 12.h3 Nh6 13.g4 Nf7 14.Nh4 g6 15.Qf2 c5 16.Rdf1 Rd6 17.b3 Bd7 18.Nc4 Ra6 19.a4 Rf8 20.Nf3 h6 21.Rh2 Be6 Neikirkh,O (2525)-1.d4 e6 2.c4 ♗b4 3. ♗d2_10 (2636) www.remoteschach.de 2012 CBM 107 Extra [Panczyk] 1-0 (59)]
7...0-0 8.Nc3 The position is equal.
8...Nd7 9.Qd2 Re8 10.Bxc5 Nxc5 11.0-0-0 a5

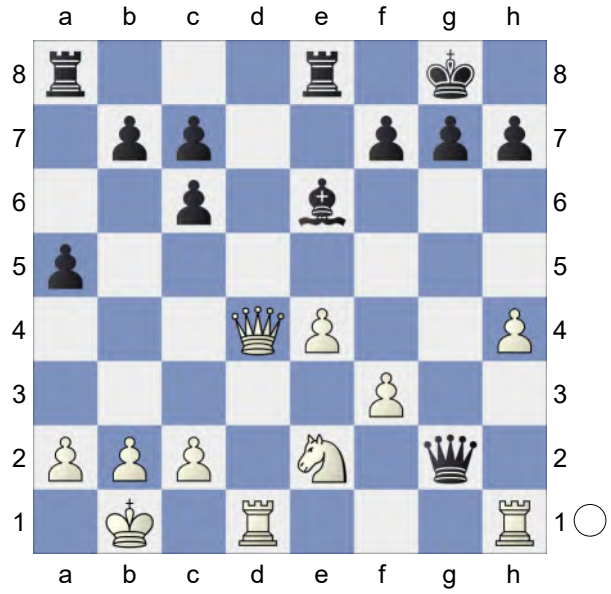


12.Nxe5! Qxe5 13.d4 Qe7 Hoping for ...Nd7. **14.dxc5 Qxc5 15.Qd4 Qg5+ 16.Kb1 Be6 17.h4 Qf4** 0.39/22
[17...Qe7!= -0.24/20]
18.f3 Qg3 0.86/20
[18...f5= 0.25/18 remains equal.]

(Diagram)



19.Ne2!± Qg6
[19...Qxg2?



20.Rhg1! Qg6 21.Rxg6+-]
20.g4↑ Inhibits f5. White is on the roll.
20...f6 21.h5 Qf7 22.a3 h6 23.Nf4 Re7 24.Qc3 a4 25.Rd4 Rd7 26.Rhd1 0.81/21
[⌓26.Rxd7 1.20/24 Qxd7 27.Nxe6 Qxe6 28.Rd1]
26...Rad8 27.Kc1
[Don't play 27.Nxe6 Qxe6 28.Rxd7 Rxd7 29.Rxd7 Qxd7±]
27...Kh7 28.Ng6 0.62/24
[White should try 28.Rxd7± 1.04/23 Rxd7 29.Rd4]
28...Rxd4± 29.Rxd4 Ra8 1.24/24
[⌓29...Rxd4 0.87/21 30.Qxd4 Qe8]
30.Qd3± &Bianco is more active.
30...Kg8? 10.94/23
[30...Qe8± 1.16/22]
31.Rd8+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.16 (very precise)
1-0

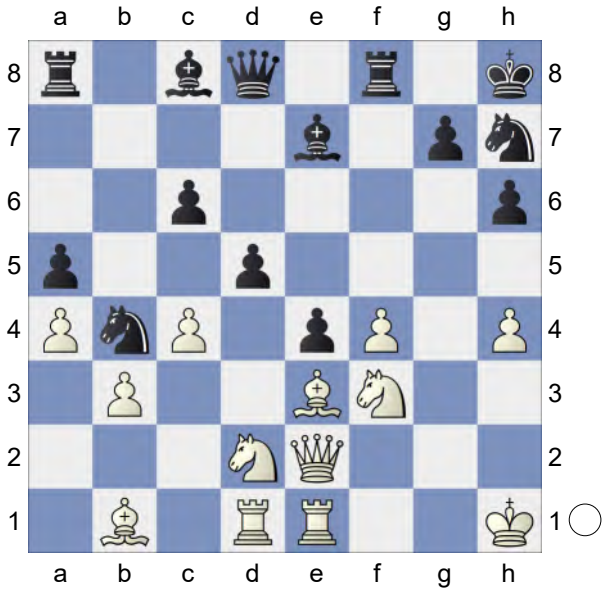
199 **C65**
□ **Stockfish Dev15** **3617**
■ **Komododragon** **3600**
TCEC 22 Superfinal 2022 (4) 06.04.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C66: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz Defence **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 0-0 7.c3 Nd7** 0.62/22
[7...a6= 0.21/23 8.Ba4 b5]
[7...Bd7 8.Ba4 Re8 *(8...Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.dxe5 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 dxe5 14.Qg3 Nc6 15.Nc3 Nh5 16.Qh3 Nf6 17.Be3 Qc8 18.Qg3 Ng4 19.Bc1 Nf6 20.Bd1 Kh8 21.Be3 Bb4 22.Bg5 Ng8 23.Bg4* ½-½ King,D (2446)-Ballin,A (2530) Izhevsk Corporation Cup-A 4th 2012 (9.2)) 9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.Nf1 h6 11.Ng3 Ne7 12.Bc2 Ng6 13.d4 c5 14.h3 cxd4 15.cxd4 exd4 16.Qxd4 Qc7 17.Bb3 d5 18.e5 Bc5 19.Qc3 Qb6 20.Be3 d4 21.Bxd4 Bxd4 22.Qxd4 ½-½ Sarwinski,M (2691)-Skalusevic,L (2677) B) 3...g6]
8.d4± White is slightly better. **8...Bf6 9.Be3 a6N**
[9...Ne7 10.Nbd2 Ng6 11.a4 Patole,N-Jungbluth,M URS-ch Soviet Union 1983]
10.Bd3 h6 11.Nbd2 a5 12.Rc1 Ne7

13.a4 Ng6 14.g3 Be7 15.h4 Re8 16.d5 Ngf8 17.Nh2 White is much more active. **17...Nh7** Black is weak on the light squares **18.Kh1 Kh8 19.Bc2 c6 20.c4 Nc5 21.b3 Na6 22.Bb1 Nb4 23.Qe2 Rf8** 1.00/23

[23...Bd7!± 0.58/21 is more appropriate.]

24.Rcd1± f5 25.dxc6 bxc6 26.f4 d5 27.Nhf3! exf4 28.gxf4 fxe4

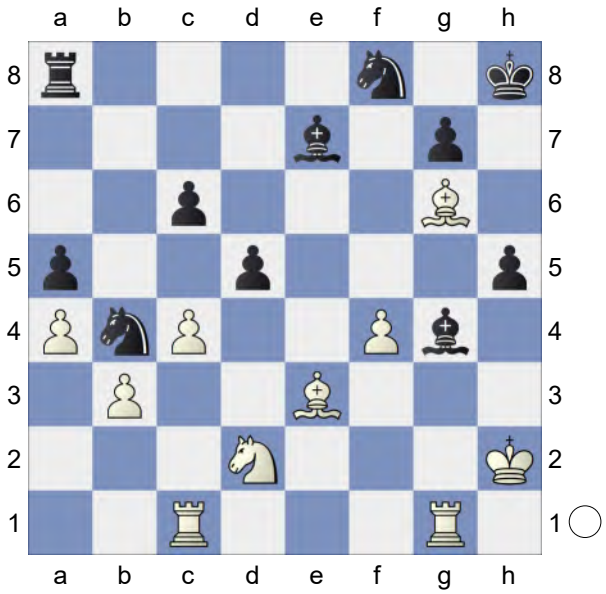


29.Nxe4 Qe8 30.Ned2 Qh5 1.64/24

[30...Bd6± 1.27/26]

31.Ne5!+- Qxh4+ 32.Qh2 Qxh2+ 33.Kxh2 Rf6 34.Ng6+ Rxg6 35.Bxg6 Bg4 36.Rc1↑ Keeping Black busy. **36...Nf8 37.Rg1! h5**

(Diagram)



38.Bf7 Bf6 39.cxd5 Nxd5 40.Nf1 Bd7 2.01/23

[40...Be6± 1.59/26 41.Bxe6 *(41.Bxh5 Nxe3 42.Nxe3 Bxb3+-)* 41...Nxe6]

41.Bxd5

[41.Bxh5?! Rb8±]

41...cxd5 42.Rc5 1.14/22

[White should play 42.Rd1+- 1.86/23]

42...Rb8 2.08/22

[42...Be6± 1.14/22]

43.Rxd5

[43.Rxa5?! Rxb3 44.Ra8 *(44.Rxd5 Bxa4 45.Bd4 Bxd4±)* 44...Be7±]

43...Rxb3 44.Rxh5+

[44.Rxa5?! h4±]

44...Kg8 45.Rxa5 Ra3 46.Rg2

[Don't do 46.Ra6 Kh7 47.Bc5 Rh3+ 48.Kg2 Ng6±]

46...Kf7 47.Ra6 Rd2 would now be deadly. **47...Rxa4 48.Rxa4 Bxa4 49.Ra2 Bc6 50.Ra6 Bb5 51.Ra7+ Ke8** 2.27/22

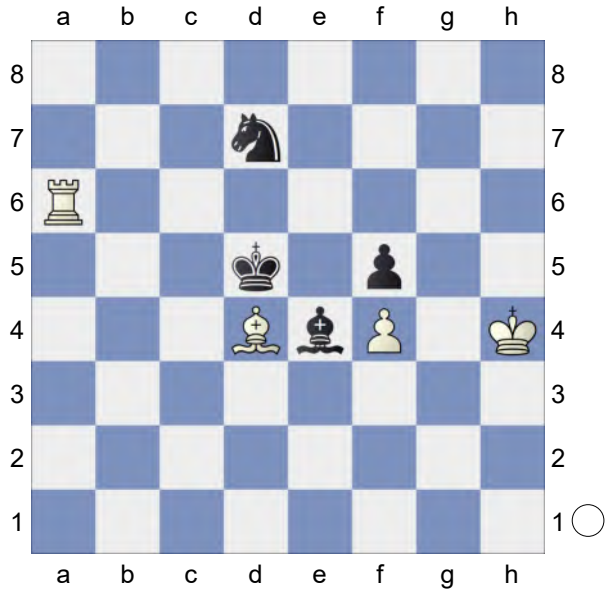
[51...Ke6± 1.60/22]

52.Ng3 Bd3 3.24/24

[52...Nd7 2.11/23 53.Nh5 Kf8]

53.Nh5 Nd7 54.Nxf6+ gxf6 Endgame KRB-KBN **55.Bd4 f5 56.Kh3**

Ke7 57.Kh4 Ke6 58.Ra8 Prevents Nb8
58...Be4 59.Ra6+ Kd5



60.Ba7 Bd3 61.Ra5+ Ke6 62.Kg5 Ke7 4.83/30
[62...Be4 3.41/29 keeps fighting. 63.Bc5 Nb8]
63.Bc5+ Kd8 64.Kg6 Be4 65.Bf2 Nb8? 5.98/29
[65...Ke7 3.45/26 66.Bc5+ Kd8]
66.Ra7 Nc6 67.Rg7 Nb4 68.Kf6 Nd3 69.Be3 Nb4 70.Ke6 Kc8 71.Bc5 Nd5 72.Bd6 Nb6 73.Be5 Na8 74.Rh7 Nb6 75.Rc7+ Kb8 76.Kd6 Na8 77.Rg7 Bf3 78.Bd4 Be4 79.Rh7 Kc8 80.Ba7 Bg2 81.Rh2 Be4 82.Rb2 Bb7 83.Rb1 Nc7 84.Rc1 Be4 85.Rxc7+ Kd8 86.Bb6 White mates. **86...Ke8 87.Ke6 Bb7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.15 (very precise)
88.Rxb7
1-0

200 **C65**
□ **Predke,Alexandr** **2671**
■ **Jumabayev,Rinat** **2577**
Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid (9)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Inf 109/(188) **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.h3 d6 6.c3 a6 7.Ba4 Ba7 8.Nbd2** The position is equal. **8...0-0 9.0-0 Ne7 10.d4 Ng6 11.Re1 b5**
[11...h6 12.Nf1 c5 13.dxe5 dxe5 14.c4 Be6 15.Qc2 Nh5 16.Ne3 Nhf4 17.Nd5 Bb8 18.Rd1 Bd6 19.Nxf4 Nxf4 20.Bxf4 exf4 21.e5 1-0 Paskulj,K (2645)-Lloyd,G (2600) USSR (ch) 1991 (6)]
12.Bc2 Bb7
[12...c5 13.d5 c4 14.Nf1 Nh5 15.Bg5 f6 16.Be3 Nhf4 17.Ng3 Ne7 18.a4 Qc7 19.axb5 axb5 20.Ra3 Bxe3 21.Rxa8 Bb6 22.Qd2 Qc5 23.Qe3 Qc7 24.Qd2 Qc5 25.Qe3 Qc7 ½-½ Radjabov,T (2784)-Kramnik,V (2801) 7th Mikhail Tal Memorial 2012 (3)]
13.Nb3N -0.04/18 An important novelty. Eine beachtenswerte Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 13.Nf1
A) 13...Re8 14.Ng3 h6 *(14...d5 15.exd5 exd4 16.Rxe8+ Qxe8 17.Nxd4 Nxd5* Karjakin,S (2739)-Jakovenko,D (2725) Odessa (m/7-blitz) 109/188 2010*)* 15.a4 Bb6 16.Bd2 Qd7 17.Bd3 d5 10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2739)-Kaiser,W (2725) B3323) 12. a3;
B) 13...d5 14.Nxe5 Nxe4 15.Be3 Nxe5 16.dxe5 c5 17.Bxe4 *(17.a4!?)* 17...dxe4 18.Qg4 0.19/19 *(18.Ng3±* 0.61/19 *)*

18...Qe7 19.Bf4 1-0 Yu,Y (2729)-Kramnik,V (2753) Chessable Masters Div 2 Lose rapid 2023 (4.3)]

[13.Nf1± 0.33/18]

13...c5 14.d5 -0.38/19

[14.dxc5= 0.02/20 feels stronger. dxc5 15.Qxd8 Raxd8 16.a4]

14...c4∓ 15.Nbd2 Qb6 16.Qe2 -1.76/21

[16.Rf1∓ -0.48/18]

16...Nf4-+ 17.Qf1 Nd7? -0.33/18

[17...N6h5!-+ -1.89/19 and ...Nh5-g3 would now be decisive 18.Nb1 Ng3 Trapped Piece]

18.Nb1∓ f5 19.Bxf4 exf4 20.exf5 Bxd5 21.Nbd2 Rae8 22.a4 Nf6 23.axb5 axb5 24.Nd4 Re5 25.N2f3 Excellent horsemanship.

[25.Ne6 is interesting. Bxe6 26.fxe6 Re8 27.Rxe5 dxe5 28.Ne4]

25...Rxe1 26.Qxe1 Re8 27.Qd2 Bxf3 0.64/21

[27...b4= 0.27/19]

28.Nxf3 0.19/18

[28.gxf3± 0.64/21 d5 29.b4 *(29.Qxf4 b4=)*]

28...d5 29.Nd4

[29.Qxf4? Qxf2+ 30.Kh1 Be3-+ *(30...Qxc2 31.Rxa7 Nh5 32.Qg4=)*]

29...Bb8 0.52/18

[29...b4= 0.01/20]

30.Qd1 -0.34/20

[White should try 30.Re1± 0.52/18]

30...Be5 0.25/19

[30...b4∓ -0.34/20]

31.Nf3 b4 0.55/21

[31...Bc7= -0.01/19]

32.Ba4± Re7 33.Qd2 -0.60/19

[33.Bd7!= 0.25/21 Rxd7 *(33...Nxd7? 34.Qxd5+ Kf8 35.Nxe5+-)* 34.Nxe5]

33...b3 0.87/21

[33...Bd6!∓ -0.60/19]

34.Re1 -0.01/22

[34.Nxe5 Rxe5 35.Rd1 *(35.Qxf4? Re2-+)* 35...Rxf5∓]

[34.Bd7!± 0.87/21 Hoping for Bd7-e6+. Bb8 *(34...Nxd7? 35.Qxd5+ Kf8 36.Nxe5+-)* 35.Be6+ Kf8 36.Rd1 *(36.Bxd5 Rd7∓)*]

34...Qd6 35.Bb5

[35.Qc1 simplifies Qc7 36.Bc6 Qxc6 37.Rxe5 Rxe5 38.Nxe5 Qd6 39.Nf3]

35...Ne4↑ Black fights for an advantage.

36.Qe2 -1.93/23

[36.Qd1= 0.01/22 and White has nothing to worry.]

36...Bf6!-+ 37.Ra1

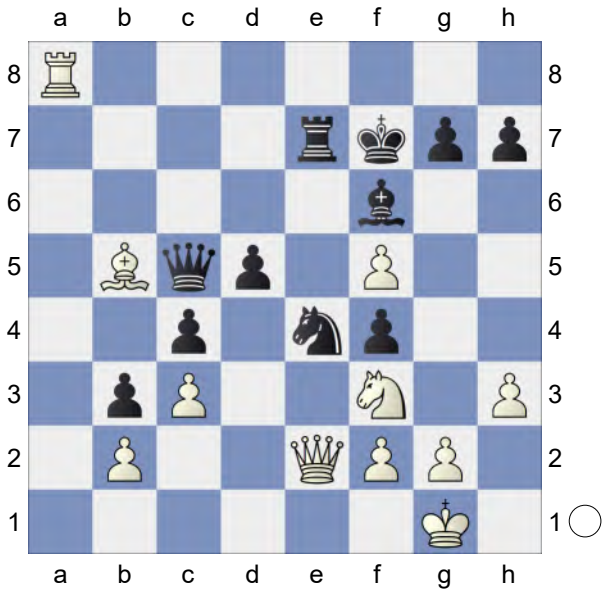
[37.Bxc4 Ng5 38.Qd1 Nxf3+ 39.gxf3 Rxe1+ 40.Qxe1 dxc4-+]

37...Qc5 #9/18

[37...Nxc3 38.Ra8+]

[37...g5∓ -1.58/21 38.Ra8+ Kg7]

38.Ra8+ Kf7



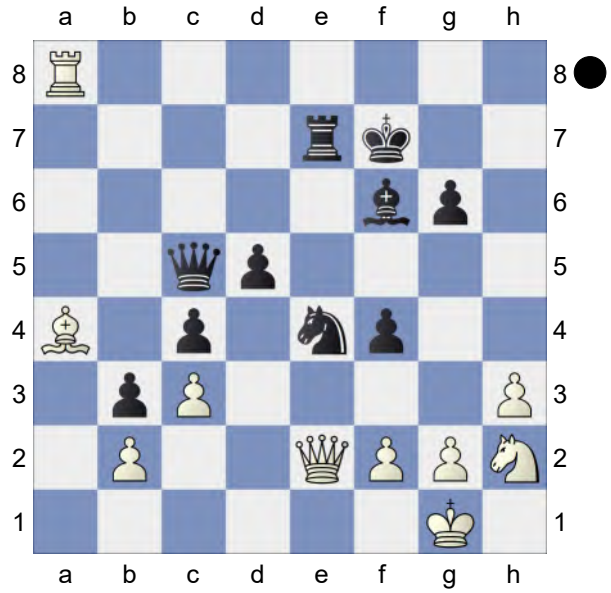
39.Ba4?? -2.59/21

[39.Ne5+! #5/12 mates Rxe5 40.Qh5+ g6 41.Qxh7+ Bg7 42.Qxg6+ Ke7 43.Re8#]

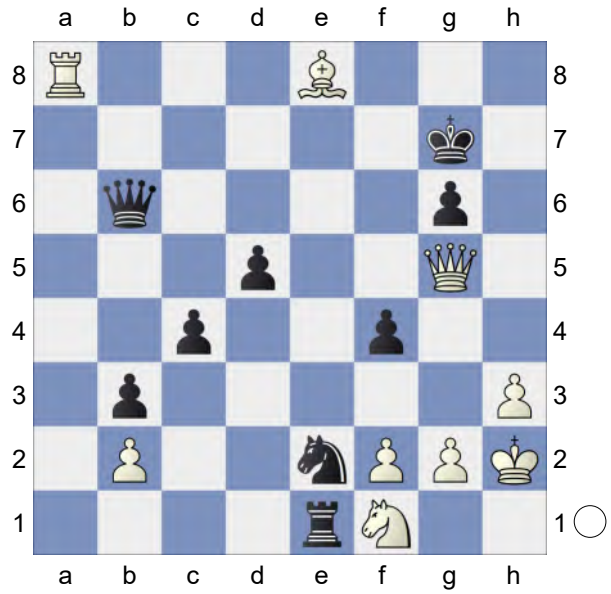
39...g6

[Inferior is 39...Nxc3 40.Be8+ Kg8 41.Bh5+ *(41.bxc3?* too greedy. *Rxe2 42.Bg6+ Qf8-+)*]

40.fxg6+ hxg6 41.Nh2? -5.12/18
[41.Qf1 -3.00/20]



41...Nxc3? 0.01/18 **42.Be8+!=**
White is weak on the dark squares
42...Kg7 43.Qg4 Re1+ 44.Nf1 Ne2+? #8/16
[44...Rxe8= -0.01/19 45.Rxe8 Ne4 46.Qxf4 *(46.Qd7+? Kh6-+)* 46...Bxb2]
45.Kh2 White mates. **45...Bg5 46.Qxg5 Qb6**



47.Bxg6! Deflection. Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/Black=0.56
1-0

201 **C65**
□ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2689**
■ **Potkin,Vladimir** **2555**
Moscow New Year Blitz (2) 15.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Gormally, Daniel: 'Anand vs Kramnik - could this be a prelude to a world championship match later? Only time will tell. Tadic,Br: 'Tadic,Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'' Tadic,Br: 'Tadic, Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...' Van Delft & Ris: 'Arkadij Naiditsch: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'''' Gormally,Daniel: 'Anand vs Kramnik - could this be a prelude to a world championship match later? Only time will tell. Van Delft & Ris: 'Arkadij

Naiditsch: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves..." Anand vs Kramnik - could this be a prelude to a world championship match later? Only time will tell. Tadic,Br: 'Tadic,Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'' Tadic,Br: 'Tadic,Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...' Van Delft & Ris: 'Arkadij Naiditsch: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'''' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Nc4 The position is equal. **8...Re8 9.a4** 9.Kh1 is the modern continuation. 9.Kh1 ist die moderne Fortsetzung. **9...a5 10.Kh1 b6 11.Be3 Bf8**

[11...Bb4 12.Nfd2 b5 13.axb5 cxb5 14.c3 bxc4 15.cxb4 cxd3 16.bxa5 Ba6 17.Qb3 Nf6 18.h3 Nh5 19.Rfc1 Nf4 20.Rc6 Ne2 21.Qd5 Qb8 22.Rxa6 Rxa6 23.Qxd3 Qxb2 24.Rb1 Rd6 25.Qxe2 Qa2 26.Qb5 1-0 Anand,V (2780)-Kramnik,V (2810) 117/96 Zürich 2013]

12.b3N

[12.Nfd2 Nc5 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxf4 f6 15.Qf3 Be6 16.Ne3 Qd7 17.Qg3 Re7 18.e5 f5 19.Nf3 Bd5 20.Nh4 Rf7 21.Bg5 Be6 22.Rf4 g6 23.Bf6 Rg7 24.Raf1 g5 25.Bxg5 h6 26.Nhxf5 Rxg5 1-0 Gurel,E (2624)-Yakubboev,N (2659) Tata Steel-B 87th 2025 (7)]

[12.Rg1 Ba6 13.Ncd2 c5 14.g4 Nb8 15.Qf1 Nc6 16.Qh3 Nd4 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.g5 b5 19.axb5 Bxb5 20.Nh4 g6 21.Qg3 Bd6 22.Nhf3 a4 23.h4 Qe7 24.Nh2 Bd7 25.Ng4 Bxg4 26.Qxg4 a3 1-0 Pranav,V (2609)-Blohberger,F (2520) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (2)]

12...c5N

[12...Ba6 13.Nfd2 Nc5 0.46/18 *(13...Bb4=* 0.02/18 *)* 14.Qh5 g6 15.Qh3 Qe7 0.58/19 *(15...Bc8=* 0.19/19 *16.Qg3 f6)* 16.Bh6 f6 17.f4 exf4 18.Rxf4 Bxh6 19.Qxh6 1-0 Tan,Z (2545)-Zhai,M (2359) Belt and Road Shaoxing 6th 2024 (3)]

13.Rg1 Qf6 0.59/20

[13...Bd6= 0.01/18]

14.g4± Qe6 15.Qf1 Bd6 16.Nh4 White is more active. **16...Nb8** 1.23/20

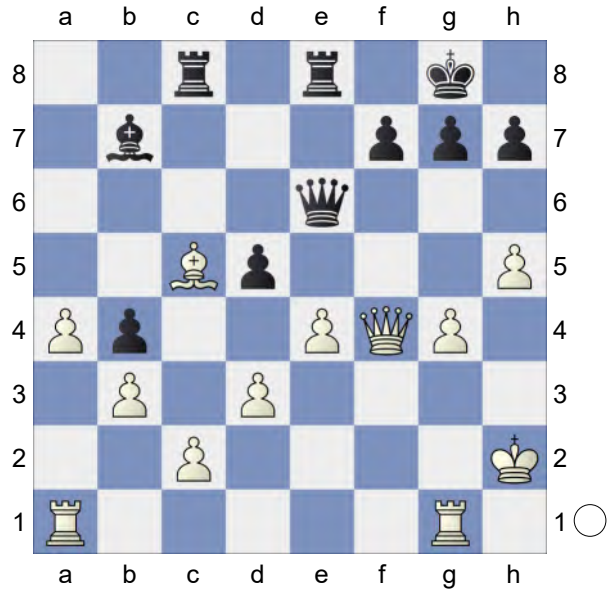
[⌓16...Ba6 0.75/17]

17.Nf5 Nc6 18.Nfxd6 0.64/20

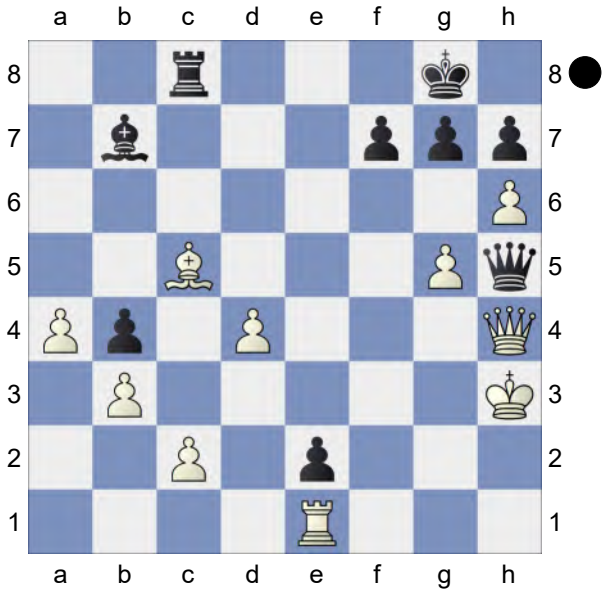
[18.f4± 1.14/19]

18...cxd6 19.Nxb6 Rb8 20.Nd5 Qg6 1.36/20

[20...Qd7!± 0.57/18]
21.f4 exf4 22.Qxf4 Nb4 23.Nxb4 axb4 2.15/20
[23...Rxb4± 1.18/19 24.Bd2 Skewer Rb7]
24.h4 0.70/19
[24.Bxc5+- 2.15/20 Black must now prevent Ra1-f1. Be6 25.Bxd6]
24...Bb7 25.h5 Qe6 26.Kh2 d5 27.Bxc5 -0.46/20
[White should play 27.e5= 0.23/19]
27...Rbc8 0.77/20
[27...dxe4∓ -0.46/20 stays ahead. 28.d4 *(28.Bxb4 Rbc8∓)* 28...e3]



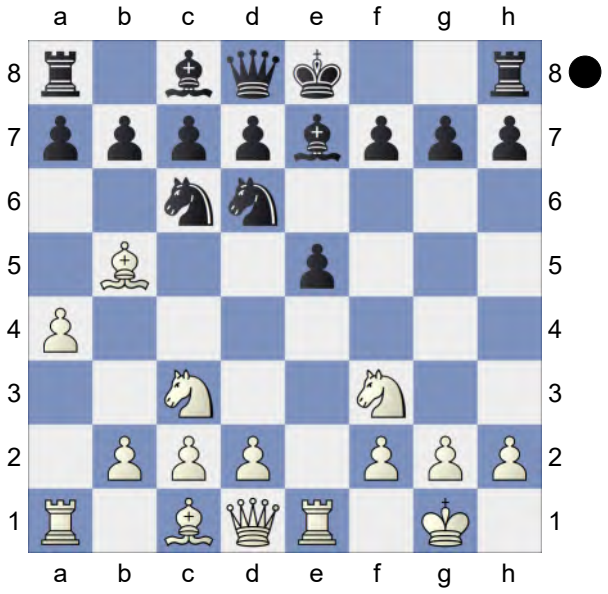
28.d4!±
[28.Bxb4? Rxc2+ *(28...dxe4 29.Ra2∓)* 29.Kh3 *(29.Rg2? Rxg2+ 30.Kxg2 dxe4-+)* 29...dxe4-+]
28...dxe4 29.Rae1 -0.55/19
[29.Qe3± 0.51/19]
29...e3∓ Black has compensation. **30.g5** -0.98/18 White is weak on the light squares
[30.h6∓ -0.61/18 is more appropriate.]
30...e2∓ 31.h6 -2.23/18
[31.Bxb4∓ -0.93/18 Rxc2 32.g6]
31...Qg6-+ Strongly threatening ...Re8-e4. **32.Rg3?** -6.54/20
[32.Qg3 -2.03/17]
32...Re4
[Inferior is 32...Qxc2 33.Re3=]
33.Qf2 Rh4+ 34.Rh3 Rxh3+ 35.Kxh3 Qh5+ -0.64/20
[35...Qxg5? 36.Qxe2 Qxh6+ *(36...gxh6 37.a5±)* 37.Kg3-+]
[Better is 35...Re8-+ -5.23/20 (→ ...Qg6-h5+) 36.Qf4 Bc8+ *(36...Qxc2? 37.Qg3-+)* 37.Kg2 Re4 *(37...gxh6? 38.Kg1-+; 37...Qxc2 38.Kf2∓)*]
36.Qh4∓



Qf3+ 37.Qg3 Qh5+ 0.01/5
[37...Qf5+∓ -0.55/22 38.Kh2 Re8 *(38...Qxc2 39.Qe5±)*]
38.Qh4= Qf3+ 39.Qg3 The board is on fire. **39...Qh5+** Never resign too early!
Weighted Error Value: White=0.51/ Black=0.37
½-½

202 **C67**
□ **Shirov,Alexei** **2666**
■ **Michalik,Peter** **2564**
Bundesliga 2425 (4.5) 01.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4 Be7 7.Nc3**



e4! Deflection 7...a6 gains popularity. 7...a6 wird beliebter. **8.Nxe4 Nxe4 9.Rxe4 d5 10.Re1 0-0 11.d4 Bg4N**
[11...Bf6 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Qd3 c5 14.dxc5 a5 15.Ne5 Be6 16.Bf4 Re8 17.h3 Qc8 18.Rad1 Rb8 19.b3 Rb4 20.Qg3 c6 21.Nf3 Bf5 22.Bd2 Rbe4 23.Rxe4 Bxe4 24.Ne1 Qa6 25.Nd3 h5 26.Re1 0-1 Evseev,N (2058)-Semachev,K (2135) Munich SKA 1993 (5)]
12.c3 Bd6 13.h3 Bh5 14.Bd3N
[14.Be3 Ne7 15.g4 Bg6 16.Ne5 c6 17.Bf1 f6 18.Nxg6 Nxg6 19.Bd3 Nh4 20.f4 ½-½ Shirov,A (2667)-Le,Q (2731) Titled Tuesday intern op 21st May Late blitz 2024 (10)]
14...Bg6 0.62/17
[14...Na5= 0.01/19]
15.b4 Re8 16.Rxe8+ Qxe8 17.Bxg6 hxg6 18.Ba3 Qd7 19.b5 Na5 20.Bxd6 cxd6 21.Nd2 Rc8 22.Rc1 a6 23.Qf3 Qf5 24.Qg3 -0.01/22
[24.bxa6± 0.37/21 bxa6 25.Qxf5 gxf5 26.Kf1]
24...axb5!= The position is equal.
25.axb5 Nc4 26.Nxc4 dxc4 27.Qxd6 Qxb5 28.Re1 Re8 Wards off Qd6-e7
29.Rxe8+ Qxe8 30.Kh2 Qe1 31.Qd8+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

203 **C67**
□ **Pichot,Alan** **2638**
■ **Harikrishna,Pentala** **2704**
ChessKid Cup Div 3 W rapid (6.3)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Games 1 to 5 were played in New York City. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Nf5** White has an edge.
[12...Ne8 13.d5 *(13.Bf4 d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Qe2 c6 17.Re1 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Nf3 Ng7 20.Be5 Ne6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5 Ng7 25.Qxe8+ Nxe8 26.Rxe8+ Qxe8 27.Nf6+ Kf8* ½-½ Liang,A (2677)-Niemann,H (2733) USA-ch Saint Louis 2024 (2)*)* 13...c6 14.Qd1 b6 15.Bf4 Bb7 16.dxc6 dxc6 17.Nd2 c5 18.Nc4 Qxd1 19.Rxd1 Rd8 20.Rxd8 Bxd8 21.Bb8 a6 22.a4 b5 23.axb5 axb5 24.Na3 b4 25.Nc4 bxc3 26.bxc3 Bd5 27.Ba7 ½-½ Anand,V

(2774)-Caruana,F (2819) Grenke Chess Classic 6th 2019 (5)]

13.Bf4 d6 14.Bd3N

[14.h3 Be6 15.Nd2 Bg5 16.Bxg5 Qxg5 17.Nf3 Qf4 18.Qe2 d5 19.g3 Qh6 20.h4 Qh5 21.a4 a5 22.Ne5 Qxe2 23.Bxe2 g6 24.Kg2 h5 25.f3 b6 26.Bd3 Kg7 27.Kf2 c5 28.Bxf5 Bxf5 ½-½ Wharrier,J (2411)-Ellis,L (2397) corr VWC9/F ICCF 2020]

14...Nh4!?N An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung. An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 14...Be6 15.Nd2 Bg5 *(15...Nh4 16.Ne4 Ng6 17.Bd2 d5 18.Nc5 Bc8 19.Qe3 b6 20.Nb3 Qd6 21.Qe8+ Nf8 22.Re1 Bb7 23.Qe3 Ne6 24.Qf3 Rd8 25.Qf5 Nf8 26.Bf4 Qc6 27.Nd2 Bc8 28.Qh5 g6 29.Qe2 Ne6 30.Bg3* 0-1 Steinitz,W-Zukertort,J World-ch01 Steinitz-Zukertort +10-5=5 1886 (4) *Qb7 31.Nf3 c5 32.dxc5 bxc5 33.Ne5 c4 34.Bb1 Bg7 35.Rd1 Bd7 36.Qf3 Be8 37.Nxc4 dxc4 38.Rxd8 Nxd8 39.Qe2 Ne6* 0-1 Voboril,P-Noteboom A Main Line Chapter - 57 (4)*)* 16.Qe4 d5 17.Qe5 Bf4xg5! would now be deadly. Bxf4 18.Qxf4 Qd6 19.Qf3 g6 20.Re1 Ng7 ½-½ Anand,V (2773)-Radjabov,T (2757) Tata Steel-A 81st 2019 (4) ½-½ Anand,V (2773)-Radjabov,T (2757) Tata Steel-A 81st 2019 (4)]

15.Nd2 Ng6 16.Bg3 Be6 17.Bc4 -0.08/20

[17.Qe2± 0.46/16]

17...Bxc4= 18.Nxc4 Qd7 19.Qd2 b5 20.Ne3 Bg5 21.Qd3 Re8 22.Rf1 -0.33/18

[22.Qf5= 0.22/20 Qxf5 23.Nxf5]

22...Bxe3∓ 23.fxe3 d5 24.a4 -1.02/22 **a6** -0.33/20

[24...bxa4∓ -1.02/22 25.Qa6 Rxe3 26.Qxa7 Re7 27.Qa8+ Re8]

25.axb5 axb5 26.Re1 Re4 27.Ra1 c6 28.Ra8+ Re8 29.Rxe8+ Qxe8 Endgame KQB-KQN **30.Kf2 Qe6 31.Qb1 h5 32.h3 Nf8 33.Qa1 Nd7 34.Qa8+** -1.45/23

[34.Be5∓ -0.70/21]

34...Kh7∓ 35.Qc8 Qf6+! 36.Kg1 Nb6 37.Qe8 Na4 38.e4 Qe6 39.Qxe6 fxe6 KB-KN **40.Kf2 Nxb2 41.Kf3 Kg6 42.Kf4 Nc4 43.Be1 Kf7 44.Bh4** -1.57/26 **Nd6 45.exd5 exd5** -1.07/28

[⌓45...cxd5 -1.51/29 46.g4 hxg4 47.Kxg4 Ne4]

46.Ke5 -2.25/29

[46.Bd8∓ -1.07/28]

46...Nc4+ -1.12/25

[46...Ne4!-+ -2.25/29 47.Be1 h4]

47.Kf4 g6 48.Bf2 Nd6 -2.05/31

[48...Nd2∓ -1.31/33 49.Be1 Ne4]

49.Ke5 Ne4 50.Be1 Ke7 51.Kf4 Kf6 52.h4? -3.21/33

[52.g4∓ -1.33/28]

52...Ke6 53.g3 Kf6 -1.84/26

[⌓53...Kd6 -3.10/33 54.g4 hxg4 55.Kxg4 c5]

54.g4-+ Ke6! 55.Kf3 -2.98/31 **Nf6** -1.59/30

[55...hxg4+!-+ -2.98/31 56.Kxg4 Kd7]

56.gxh5∓ gxh5

[56...Nxh5 57.Kg4∓]

57.Kf4 Ne4 58.Ke3 Kf5 59.Kf3 Nd6 -1.01/32

[59...c5-+ -1.76/33 60.dxc5 Nxc5]

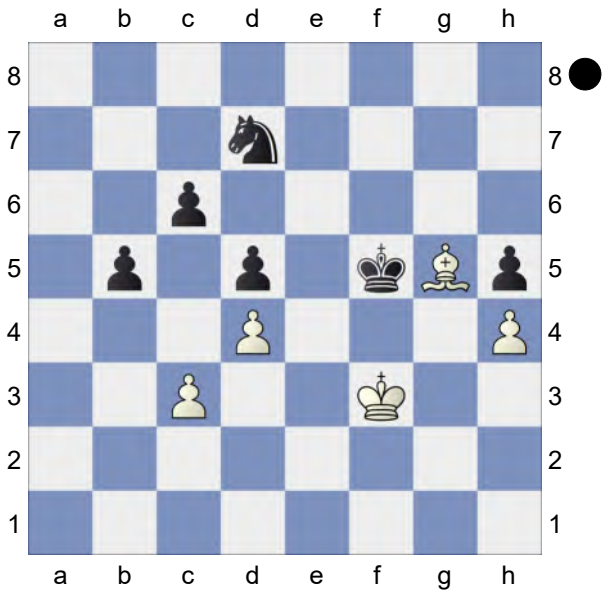
60.Bd2 Nc4 61.Bc1 Nb6 62.Bd2 -2.36/34

[62.Ba3∓ -0.94/32 is the only way for White.]

62...Nd7 -1.25/32

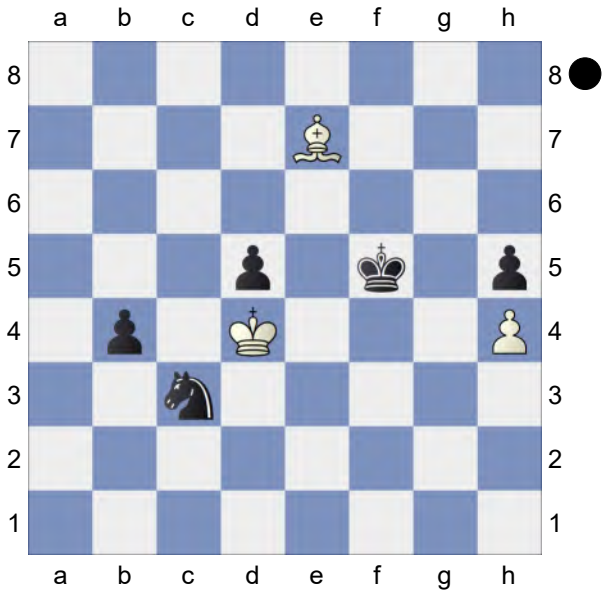
[Black should play 62...Na4-+ -2.36/34 63.Be1 Nb6]

63.Bg5 -2.64/31
[63.Be3∓ -1.25/32 keeps fighting.]
63...Nf8 -1.20/31 **64.Bd2 Ne6 65.Be3 Nd8 66.Bd2 Nb7 67.Bf4?** -3.00/31 Wards off Nb7-d6
[67.Be3∓ -1.09/31]
67...Na5? -0.83/32
[67...c5!-+ -3.00/31 68.dxc5 Nxc5]
68.Bd2 Nc4 0.01/30
[68...Kf6∓ -1.09/29 69.Bh6 Kf7]
69.Bc1!= Kf6 70.Bg5+ Ke6 71.Bc1? -4.50/28
[71.Kf4∓ -1.21/29]
71...Kf5? -1.01/32
[71...Nd6-+ -4.50/28 and Black stays clearly on top. 72.Kf4 Ne4]
72.Bf4 Nb6 0.01/28
[72...Na3∓ -1.26/28 73.Bg3 Nc4]
73.Bd2! Nd7? 0.01/27 **74.Bg5**

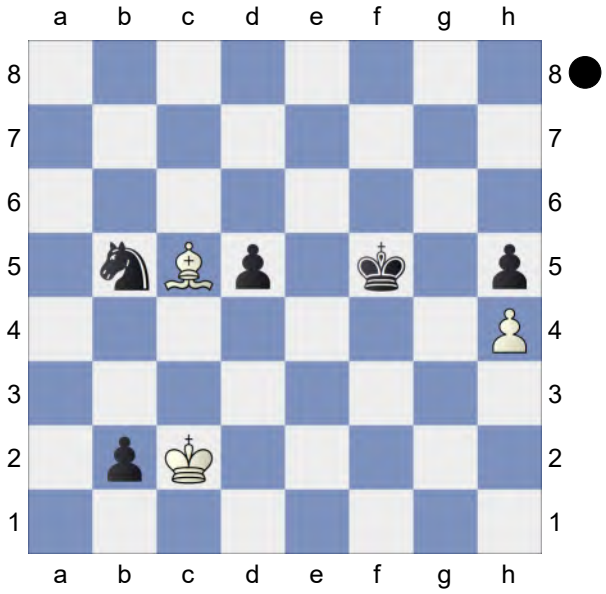


c5!-+ -2.64/31 **75.dxc5 Nxc5 76.Bd8** -2.15/27
[⌓76.Be7 -1.69/29 Nd7 77.Ke3]
76...Ne4 77.Ke3? -8.74/27
[77.Ba5∓ -1.46/27]
77...Nxc3-+ 78.Kd4 b4 79.Be7

(Diagram)



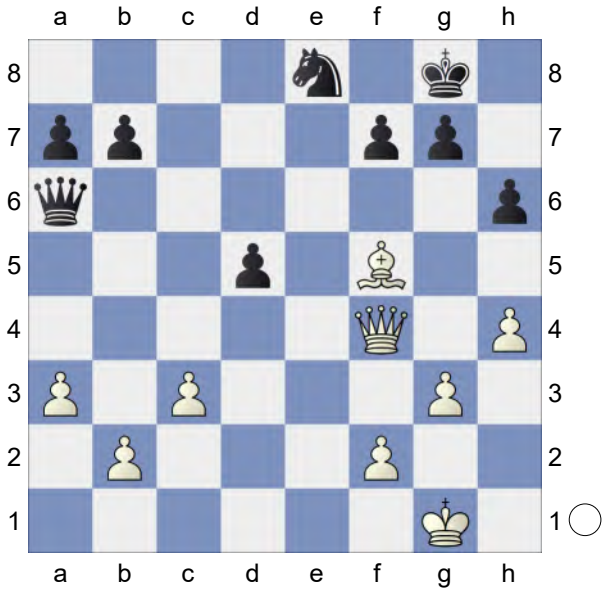
Nb5+! 80.Kd3 b3 81.Bc5 b2 82.Kc2



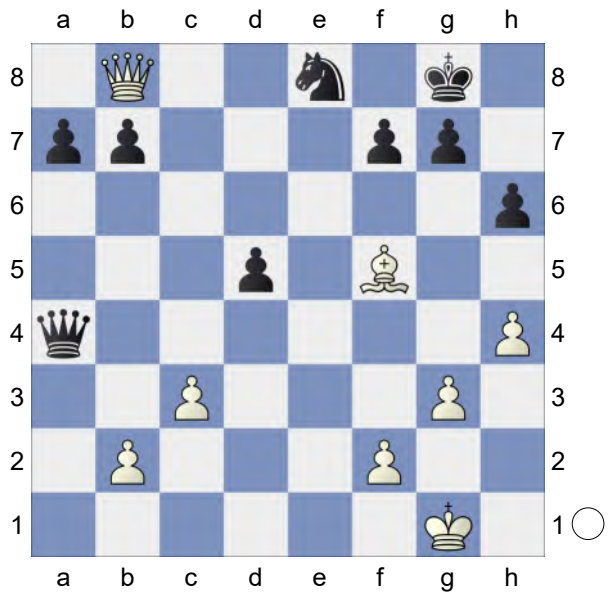
Nc3! Deflection, Promotion. Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) / Black=0.16 (very precise)
0-1

204 **C67**
□ **Deac,Bogdan Daniel** **2700**
■ **Xiong,Jeffery** **2692**
Speed Chess Q1 blitz (6) 10.11.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 d5 9.d4 0-0** White has an edge. **10.Nc3**
[10.g3 Re8 11.Nc3 Be6 12.Ne2 g5 13.b3 h6 14.h3 Bf6 15.c3 Nd6 16.Bg2 Bg7 17.Be3 Qd7 18.h4 f6 19.hxg5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 fxg5 21.Nxg5 Bg4 22.Bxd5+ Kh8 23.Kg2 Bh6 24.Qd3 Bf5 Ernst,H (2766)-Osnos,V (2769) Batumi 2018 DVD_Budapest Gambit [Grob v1, g32 FSZ#108] 0-1]
10...Nh4
[10...Bb4 11.h3 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Nd6 13.Ne5 Ne7 14.c4 f6 15.c5 fxe5 16.cxd6 Qxd6 17.Rxe5 Nc6 18.Re3 Bf5 19.Ba3 Qf6 20.Bxf8 Rxf8 21.c3 Be4 22.f3 Qg5 23.Qc1 Bg6 24.Re8 Ojasuo,A (2679)-Osnos,V (2736) Soviet Union 2022 200 Traps In The Opening [Krasenkov Mikhalchishin Beliavsky Neven]]
11.Nxh4 Bxh4 12.Ne2 Bg4N
A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 12...Re8 13.c3 g6 14.Nf4 Rxe1 15.Qxe1 Bf5 16.Qe2 Rb8 17.Bd2 h5 18.Re1 Bf6 ½-½ (41) Santos Latasa,J (2680)-Deac,B (2710) Bydgoszcz 2022]
[12...Bf5 13.c3 Re8 *(13...Qd7 14.g3 Bd8 15.Nf4 Ne7 16.Nd3 b6 17.Ne5 Qc8 18.b3 f6 19.Nd3 Qd7 20.Ba3 Re8 21.Nf4 c6 22.Qe2 Bc7 23.Qxe7 Rxe7 24.Rxe7 Qc8 25.Nh5 Bg6 26.Rxg7+ Kh8 27.Re1 c5 28.Ree7* 5) Common mistakes chess play-Game 94: (Level 4) Nils Grand (37) *)* 14.g3 Bf6 15.Be3 Ne7 16.Nf4 Grandelius,N (2691)-Sargissian,G (2681) Helsingor 142/(118) 2019]
13.h3 Bh5 14.c3 Re8
[Don't do 14...Qf6 15.g3±]
15.g3 Bg5 1.05/21
[15...Bf6= 0.29/20]
16.Bg2 0.33/19
[16.Bxg5± 1.05/21 Qxg5 17.Qb3]
16...Bxc1± 17.Rxc1 Qd6 18.Qd2 Bxe2 19.Rxe2 Re7 20.Rxe7 Nxe7 21.Re1 c6 22.Qg5 Ng6 23.h4 h6 24.Qg4 Nf8 25.Bh3 Nh7 26.Re5 Nf6 27.Qf4 c5 0.72/20
[27...b5± 0.37/20]
28.dxc5 Qxc5 29.Bf5 Qb6 30.Re2 Qa6 0.83/22
[30...Rd8± 0.37/17 is more appropriate.]
31.Re7± Rf8 32.a3 Re8 1.93/22
[32...Qb5± 0.97/21 is a better defense.]
33.Rxe8++- Nxe8



34.Qb8! Qb5 35.a4 1.04/23
[35.Qc8+- 2.10/23 Qe2 36.Bd7 *(36.Qxb7 g6+-)*]
35...Qxa4±



36.Qxb7 0.07/23
[White should try 36.Qc8!± 0.86/24 aiming for Bd7. Qd1+ 37.Kg2]
36...g6!= 37.Bd7 Qa1+ 38.Kg2 Nf6 39.Bc6 Qa5 40.Qb8+ Kg7 41.Qb5 Qa2 42.Qb7 a5 43.Qb5 a4 1.20/25
[43...h5= -0.01/21 keeps the balance.]
44.Qxa4 0.01/28
[Better is 44.Qb4± 1.20/25]
44...Qxb2 45.Qd4 Qa2 46.g4 g5 0.60/23
[Much less strong is 46...Qc4 47.Qxc4 dxc4 48.Kg3±]
[46...Qe2!= 0.20/27 was preferrable.]
47.hxg5± hxg5 48.Kg3 0.00/26
[48.Qe5± 0.56/28 Qd2 49.Qf5]
48...Qa6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.17 (very precise) . Loss on time!?
0-1

205 **C54**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2761**
■ **Radjabov,Teimour** **2753**
Norway Chess 10th (5) 05.06.2022
[Giri, Anish, TA]

C54: Giuoco Piano: 4 c3 Nf6, main lines with 5 d4 and 5 d3 **1.e4** Giri,Anish Giri, Anish Giri,Anish Giri,Anish: 'Giri, Anish' **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6** Teimour stays true to the ever solid Berlin defense. **4.d3 Bc5 5.c3** I suspect this came as a minor surprise, since I usually go for other Anti-Berlins. **5...d6** Somewhat shockingly, my opponent mixes up the move order as early as move 5. The traditional order is 5...0-0 6.0-0 d6, but I guess Teimour suddenly got confused with 6.Bxc6!? bxc6 7.Nxe5, which is a testing line, but Black is supposed to be fine in complications after 7...d5. **6.d4!?** Fortunately I had refreshed my move orders before the game, as incidentally the day before I mixed up my own against Carlsen (in a different opening, but still). The 6.d4 is the "punisher", though objectively Black is not really in any serious trouble yet. **6...exd4** Black has to give up the center. The fact that this only move took Teimour quite a bit of time, only confirmed that he indeed mixed up the order. **7.cxd4 Bb4+ 8.Bd2** The right way to play for advantage, though 8.Kf1!? looks super tempting, trying to win material.
[8.Kf1!? When I had re-checked this before the game, I concluded that Black is fine by force. d5! Only move. 9.e5 Ne4 10.Qa4 White still appears to be winning some material, but Black has a few way to organize counterplay, due to White's weakened

king on f1. One instructive sample line goes- a5 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.Qxc6+ Qd7! 13.Qxa8 Qb5+ 14.Kg1 0-0 15.h3 Bb7 16.Qa7 Ra8 17.Na3 Qe2! 18.Qxb7 Qxf2+ 19.Kh2 Qg3+ With a perpetual check. All theory, as they say.]

8...Bxd2+?! While 5...d6 is merely somewhat inaccurate, the decision to not allow the doubling of the c-pawns is already a serious mistake. Having given up the center already, Black is not in the position to prevent abstract threats like Bxc6 and should try to create counterplay quickly, in order to compensate for the strategic issues, such as lack of space in the center and potentially doubled pawns.

[8...0-0 9.Bxc6 Bxd2+ 10.Nbxd2 bxc6 11.0-0 This is the critical position, where Black has to act fast, to try to come up with some counterplay before White gets to fully consolidate their center.]

9.Nbxd2 Bd7?! Besides that it loses a crucial tempo, it is also the fact that the doubling of the pawns, as bad as it is, trades a piece, which is a big relief for Black, as he lacks space. So I am not sure he should fear it much. **10.0-0 0-0 11.Re1** This move is obvious. **11...Re8N**

[11...Ne7 12.Bf1 c6 13.b4 Bg4 14.h3 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 a5 16.b5 cxb5 17.Bxb5 Qb6 18.e5 Nfd5 19.a4 dxe5 20.dxe5 Nc7 21.Bc4 Nc6 22.Qe4 Nb4 23.Nf3 Ne6 24.Rad1 Rad8 25.Bxe6 fxe6 26.Rd6 1-0 Olsson,S (2624)-14. ♘e4 ♖e8 15. h4 f5 (2405) E) 6...Be7]

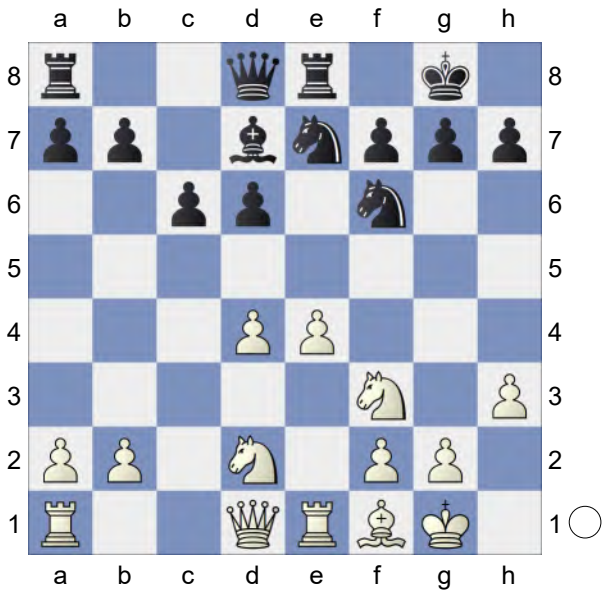
[11...Bg4 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Nxf3 Ne7 14.Qb3 c6 15.Bd3 Qb6 16.Qc2 Ng6 17.e5 dxe5 18.dxe5 Nd5 19.Bf5 Ndf4 20.h4 h6 21.e6 Ne7 22.Bh7+ Kh8 23.exf7 Rxf7 24.Ne5 1-0 Grefe-Lentrodt,T (1371) 116/(91) Barbera del Valles 2012]

12.h3 I decided to prevent any Bg4 ideas, but developing the other rook with 12.Rc1 would have been more rough.

[12.Rc1! a6 13.Bd3 I may have underestimated this retreat, but it is a good square for the bishop, guarding the e4 pawn. Bg4 This is not an issue now. 14.Qb3 White has the pawns in the center well guarded and the queen will soon step over to c3, overprotecting the d4 pawn as well.]

12...Ne7 Transferring the knight to g6 doesn't solve the problems. **13.Bf1** White is better. **13...c6?!** 1.27/24

[⌓13...Ng6 0.74/21]



This felt very wrong. Black isn't generating counterplay, but is weakening the d6 pawn. **14.Qb3!?** 0.80/25 Highly sophisticated. I felt that 14.e5 would sell my advantage too short, but actually it was simple and strong.

[14.e5 dxe5 15.dxe5 Nfd5 16.Ne4 Nf5 I wasn't sure how much this was, as 17.g4 Nh4 kind of works out for

Black. The position is just really good here though, as White can slowly mobilize and bring the a1 rook into play as well, before starting some concrete action. Black active looking knights have no promising jumps here.]

[⩲14.e5! 1.27/24 dxe5 15.dxe5]

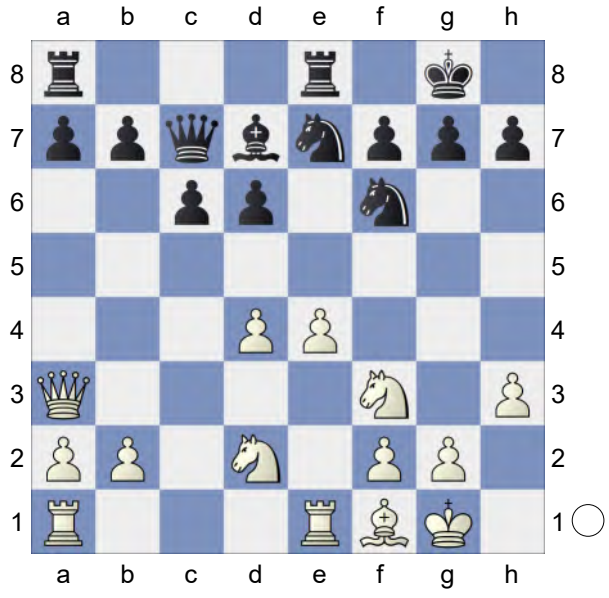
14...Qb6?! I was very surprised to see this move, giving me Qa3 for free, but Teimour had an issue that he couldn't solve after the more natural 14...Qc7.

[14...Qc7 15.Ng5 Rf8 I was trying to make e5 work here, but Teimour told me that 16.f4!? scared him away, and indeed it is a very cool idea. 16.f4!? *(16.e5 dxe5 17.dxe5 Nfd5)* 16...h6 17.Ngf3 idea being d5 1.19/25 *(17...Nh5 18.f5!; 17...Nh5± 0.52/22)* 18.e5± Nh5 19.f5! and capturing the pawn, loses to 20.g4!.]

15.Qa3! Eyeing the d6 pawn. **15...Qc7** 1.53/24

[15...d5 16.e5 Nh5 is not a solution to the problem. 17.g3 Against Nf4 Cuts out the h5 knight.]

[⩲15...d5 0.99/25]



16.Nc4!± **Nc8** **17.e5↑** White is in control. With the knight so passive on c8, this operation felt well timed. **17...dxe5** **18.dxe5** **Nd5** I thought of some concrete ideas related to 19.Ng5, but eventually realized that White just has to strengthen the position. **19.Rac1** White is more active. Also strong was 19. Rad1. **19...h6** 1.96/25

[19...a5± 1.47/22 20.Red1 h6]

20.b4!? 1.20/24 I really liked this idea, preventing b5 and c5 once and for all.

[20.Nd4! Got intuitively dismissed on the account of b5 as well as c5, but it just works by force.

A) 20...c5 3.17/24 20...Qd8 1.86 21.Qf3! Is a powerful intermezzo. Ndb6 Here there are many good moves, but my engine's first choice is incredible. 22.a4! I will see myself out. Nxa4? 4.51/24 *(22...Bxa4 2.02/24 23.e6 Re7)* 23.Bd3!+- cxd4? 5.92/23 *(23...Qd8 2.93/23)* 24.Nd6!;

B) 20...b5 21.e6! Freeing the e5 square for the knight, with an overwhelming advantage, once the c6 pawn falls.]

[20.Nd4+- 1.96/25]

20...Qd8?! Black spent a lot of time on this move and after thinking along for a while, I realized that 20...Ndb6! is the best chance, trying to get rid of my annoying c4 knight and potentially free the knight on c8 from the defense of the d6 square. Teimour's move is more passive.

[20...Ndb6! White has plenty of options here, but it's hard to say which one is the best. Black can keep struggling on here.]

21.Qb2! Now my play is extremely easy. **21...Rb8** **22.a3!** Black doesn't want

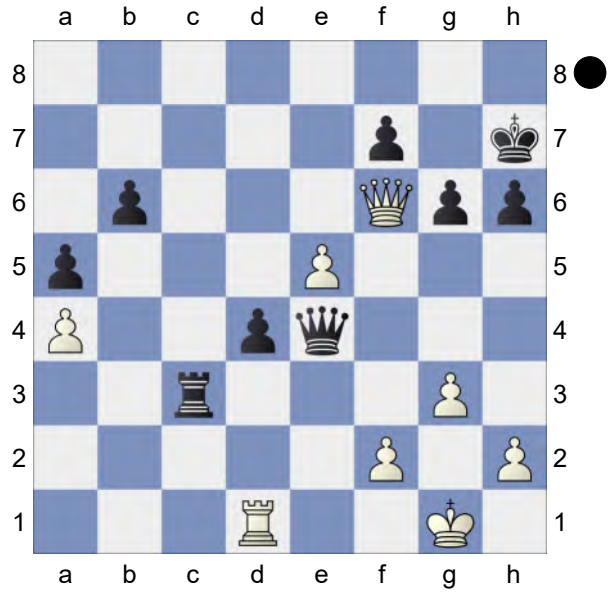
anything, so I can just afford to optimize my position. Interestingly, this move is also the engine's top choice, which goes to show that simple human logic can sometimes almost as if by accident match the all-knowing AI. **22...a6** 2.03/22
[22...Ndb6± 1.51/22 23.Na5 Ne7]
23.Rcd1 Rook is slightly better placed here. **23...Qc7** 2.35/24 Here it's time to go for the final push.
[23...b5 1.79/23]
24.Qd4 1.39/25 I couldn't choose between this and Bd3, with the same idea, to setup a battery along the b1-h7 diagonal, which would be the final improvement of my pieces, when Black's position would crack.
[24.Bd3! is even cleaner, as in the game there is still a bit of work left to do.]
[White should play 24.Bd3+- 2.35/24]
24...Bf5 1.94/23 Black fights for the b1-h7 diagonal, but for this I prepared a simple response.
[24...b5± 1.39/25]
25.Nh4+- Bh7 2.21/23
[25...Bc2 1.66/23]
26.Bd3! Trading away a defender and introducing the idea of Rd3-Rg3. Black was already busted for a while, but now he is finally facing concrete problems.
26...b5 2.31/26 This pushes the c4 knight away, but at a high cost. The c6 pawn is now hopelessly backward and weak.
[26...Bxd3 1.80/24 27.Rxd3 *(27.Qxd3 b5±)* 27...b5]
27.Bxh7+ Kxh7 28.Na5 Nce7 29.Rc1 Nxc6! would now be deadly. I decided to just collect the c6 pawn, but there were prettier roads to victory.
[29.e6! was a good one, making Black choose between different options, all of which are quite unacceptable.]
29...Rbd8 30.Qe4+ Kh8 2.22/23
[30...Kg8 1.76/24 31.Nf3 f5 32.exf6 Discovered Attack Nxf6]
31.Nf3 I decided to go for the c6 pawn and there was no changing my mind at this point.
[31.Nb3!? Aiming for domination with Nc5 and eventual f4-f5 was also a way to convert.]
31...Qd7 2.44/24
[31...f5± 1.48/23 32.exf6 Nxf6]
32.Rc2 I thought this was accurate, as 32.Nd4 seemed to fail to 32...Nxb4, but in fact 33.e6! wins for White. **32...Ng6** 2.62/25 Black tries to give up the doomed pawn and seek some active play, but one knight on f4 is not going to give White much headache.
[32...Rc8 Defending passively not going to save the game either. 33.Rec1 Nb6 34.Rd2 Ned5 35.Nd4 Repels Qe6 Ne7 2.66/23 *(⌓35...Nf6* 1.90/25 *36.Qe3 Nfd5)* 36.Kh2 Black is out of moves and White will eventually f4-f5 Black to suffocation.]
[32...Rc8± 1.49/25 33.Qg4 Qxg4 34.hxg4 Kg8]
33.Nxc6 I just take the pawn. **33...Rc8 34.Rec1 Ngf4** 3.78/25
[34...Nb6 2.29/25 was called for. 35.Kh2 Nc4]
35.Ncd4 Now I just go back. There is no compensation for the pawn. **35...Rxc2 36.Rxc2 f6?** 6.51/26 White is fully mobilized and ready for this attempt to stir up some drama in the center.
[36...Ne6 3.42/23 37.Nf5 Ne7]
37.Rc5! White is clearly winning.
37...fxe5 38.Nxe5 Black is the one losing material here, despite him being the one with a pin. **38...Nc3 39.Rxc3**

Qxd4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.78 **40.Nf7+** Discovered Attack An intermezzo that seals the game. Black resigned, losing material on the board, but also running out of time.
[Not 40.Qxd4 Ne2+ 41.Kh2 Nxd4±]
1-0

206 **C67**
□ **Feokl1995** **3040**
■ **DrNykterstein** **3197**
Blitz 21.12.2021
[Kitty Kat]

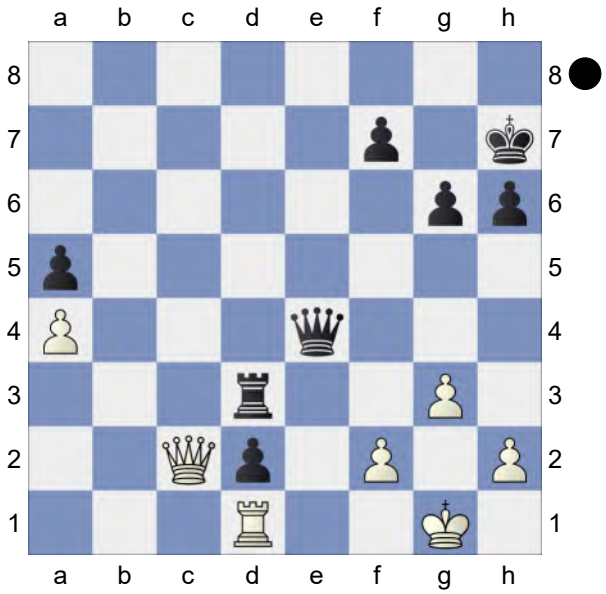
Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 0-0 9.d4 d5** White is slightly better. **10.c3 Re8**
[10...Bd6 11.Bd3 *(11.g3 Re8 12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Bd3 h6 14.Nbd2 Bf8 15.Nf1 Nce7 16.Bf4 c6 17.Qc2 g5 18.Be5 Bg7 19.Re1 f6 20.Bc7 Bf8 21.Ne3 Qd7 22.Nxf5 Nxf5 23.Bd8 Bg7 24.Bxf6 Qf7 25.Bxg7 Kxg7* Bartel,M (2651)-Anton Guijarro, D (2653) Germany 2024 CBM 221 Extra [Krasenkow,Michal] ½-½ (60) *)* 11...Nce7 12.Nbd2 c6 13.Nf1 Ng6 14.Qc2 Nfh4 15.Nxh4 Qxh4 16.g3 Qd8 17.Ne3 Re8 18.Bd2 Nf8 19.Nf5 Bc7 20.Rxe8 Qxe8 21.Re1 Be6 22.Qc1 f6 23.Qd1 Qd7 24.Qf3 Re8 25.h4 Carlsen,M (2826)-Anand,V (2800) Nanjing 2010 CBM 139 [Stohl, Igor] ½-½ (68)]
11.Bf4 Bd6 White must now prevent ... Rxe1. **12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Qd2N**
[13.Bxd6 Nxd6 14.Nbd2 Ne7 15.Qe2 Bf5 16.Re1 Ng6 17.Qxe8+ Nxe8 18.h4 Kf8 19.g3 Nd6 20.Bg2 f6 21.Nf1 c6 22.N3d2 Ne7 23.Ne3 Bd3 24.Bh3 a5 25.Ng2 Bf5 26.Bxf5 Nexf5 27.a4 Kf7 Bierre-Deac,B [GM Kiril Georgiev] (57)]
13...Nce7 14.Bd3 c6 15.a4 a5 16.Na3 Bxf4 17.Qxf4 Ng6 18.Qd2 Nd6 19.Re1 Qd8 20.Ne5 Bf5 21.Bxf5 Nxf5 22.Nc2 Nxe5 23.dxe5 Qb6 24.Nd4 Nxd4 25.cxd4± Endgame KQR-KQR 25...Qb3 26.Ra1 b6 27.Ra3 Qb4 28.Qd1 c5→ Black has some attack.
[28...Qxb2 29.Rb3 Qa2 30.Rxb6±]
29.g3 Rd8 0.59/20
[29...c4= 0.01/20]
30.Rd3 -0.49/22
[30.Rb3!± 0.59/20 Qc4 31.Rxb6]
30...c4∓ 31.Rd2 h6 -0.01/20
[31...b5∓ -0.35/18 was preferrable.]
32.Qc2 -0.60/20
[32.f4= -0.01/20]
32...Rc8 0.01/19
[Black should try 32...b5∓ -0.60/20 33.axb5 Qxb5]
33.Rd1 -0.44/22
[33.Re2= 0.01/19 is superior.]
33...c3 34.Rb1 -1.27/22
[34.Qf5∓ -0.46/21 Rf8 35.bxc3 Qxa4 36.Qd3]
34...Qxd4∓ 35.bxc3 Rxc3 36.Qf5 g6 -0.14/23
[Better is 36...Rc6∓ -1.27/22 37.Re1 *(37.Qd7 Qxa4 38.Qxd5 Qc2∓)* 37...Qb4]
37.Qf6= Qe4! 38.Rd1 -1.39/22
[38.Qxb6= -0.17/21 keeps the balance. Kh7 39.Rf1]
38...d4 -0.01/23 Active counter play!
[38...Qxa4∓ -1.39/22 39.Qd8+ Kh7 40.Qxd5 Qc4 41.Qxc4 Rxc4]
39.Qd8+ Kg7 40.Qf6+ Kg8 41.Qd8+ Kh7 42.Qf6? -2.30/22
[42.Qxd4= -0.01/21 and White has

nothing to worry. Rc4 43.Qd6]



42...Rf3!-+ 43.Qxb6 d3 44.e6 Qe2
White does not recover from this.
[Reject 44...Qxe6?! 45.Qxe6 fxe6 46.Kg2=]
45.Rf1 d2
[Stronger than 45...fxe6 46.Qa7+ Kg8 47.Rc1∓]
[Worse is 45...Qxe6 46.Qxe6 fxe6 47.Kg2∓]
46.Qb1 -10.27/24 Against d1Q
[46.Qd4 -3.71/22 fxe6 47.Qd7+ Kg8 48.g4]
46...Qxe6 ...Qe2 is the strong threat.
47.Qd1 Rd3 48.Qc2 Qe2 49.Rd1 Qe1+ 50.Kg2 Qe4+ 51.Kg1

(Diagram)



Rxg3+! 52.hxg3
[52.fxg3 Qxc2]
52...Qxc2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.70/Black=0.36
0-1

207 **C90**
□ **Gurel,Ediz** **2635**
■ **Motylev,Alexander** **2577**
EU-ch 24th Petrovac (6) 13.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C90: Closed Ruy Lopez with 7...d6: Early deviations **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.c3 0-0 7.Re1 a6**
[7...Bd7 8.Ba4 Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.dxe5 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 dxe5 14.Qg3 Nc6 15.Nc3 Nh5 16.Qh3 Nf6 17.Be3 Qc8 18.Qg3 Ng4 19.Bc1 Nf6 20.Bd1 Kh8 21.Be3 Bb4 22.Bg5 ½-½ King, D (2446)-Ballin,A (2530) Izhevsk Corporation Cup-A 4th 2012 (9.2)]
8.Ba4N
[8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Qc2 c5 13.Be3 c4

14.Nc3 Nxc3 15.bxc3 Bg4 16.Nd2 Qd7 17.Nf1 Bf5 18.Qd2 Rab8 19.Bg5 Ba3 20.Ng3 Bg6 21.f4 h6 22.Bf6 Qg4 0-1 Intro Be3 (2584)-Rudolph,J (2643) 305 Linz 2014 (5.4) 23.f5 Rb2 24.Qe3 Bxf5 25.h3 Qg6 26.Qf3 Be6 27.Bh4 Rfb8 28.Rf1 Qd3 29.Qf4 Qd2 30.Qf3 Qd3 31.Qf4 g5 32.Bxg5 hxg5 33.Qxg5+ Qg6 34.Qxg6+ fxg6 35.Rf6 Rb1+ 36.Rxb1 Rxb1+ 37.Kf2 Rb6 ½-½ Karjakin,S (2788)-Ivanchuk,V (2768) WchT 8th Ningbo 2011 (6.1)]

8...Re8 9.Nbd2 Bf8 10.Nf1 h6 11.Ng3 b5 12.Bb3 Ne7! now scores much better than the old 12...Na5. punktet besser als das ältere 12...Sa5. **13.a4 Rb8 14.d4 Ng6** The position is equal. **15.h3 c5 16.d5 Bd7 17.Bc2N**

[17.c4 Nh7 0.50/19 *(17...Nf4=* 0.08/19 *)* 18.Bc2 -0.01/19 *(18.axb5±* 0.50/19 *axb5 19.cxb5)* 18...Nh4 0.78/20 *(18...bxc4=* -0.01/19 *19.Re3 Rb4)* 19.Bd2 -0.03/19 *(19.Nxh4±* 0.78/20 *Qxh4 20.b3)* 19...Nxf3+= 20.Qxf3 Ng5 0.48/18 *(20...b4=* -0.01/18 *)* 21.Qe2 g6 1.17/18 *(21...b4!=* 0.14/19 keeps the balance. *)* 22.Rf1 0.00/19 *(22.cxb5±* 1.17/18 *axb5 23.b3)* 22...Bg7 0.83/20 *(22...b4=* 0.00/19 *)* 23.b3 0.00/17 ;½-½ Nurmanova,A (2324)-Lagno,K (2532) Julius Baer WSCC Blitz 2024 (1.8) *(23.cxb5±* 0.83/20 *axb5 24.Rfb1)*]

17...Qc7 0.51/19

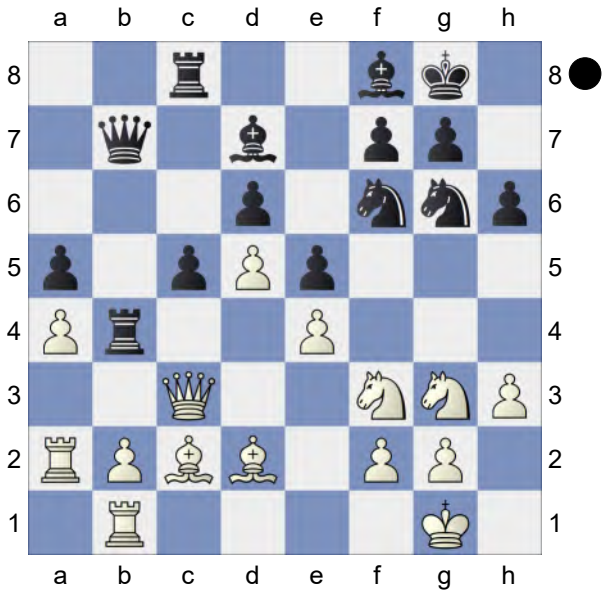
[17...c4= 0.15/20 might be stronger.]

18.Be3± Rec8 19.Qd2 Rb7 20.Ra2 b4 21.cxb4 0.08/20

[21.b3± 0.62/20]

21...Rxb4= 22.Qc3 a5 23.Bd2 Qb7 24.Rb1 -0.73/20

[24.b3= 0.09/20]



24...Nxe4!∓ Decoy. Black is more active. **25.Nxe4 Qxd5 26.Ra3**

[26.Qd3? Qxa2 27.Nxd6 c4-+ *(27...Rxb2 28.Rxb2 Qxb2 29.Nxf7=)*]

26...Rxe4 27.Bxe4 -2.12/20

[27.Qxa5∓ -0.57/20 Bc6 28.Rd1]

27...Qxe4-+ 28.Re1 -2.31/19

[⌓28.Rba1 -1.81/19]

28...Qd5 29.Qxa5 e4 30.Nh2 White is weak on the light squares **30...Ne5** Black has strong compensation. **31.Qc3 Nd3**

[31...Nc4 32.Raa1∓]

32.Re2 Qa8 33.a5 -2.63/19

[33.f3 -1.95/19 was called for.]

33...d5 34.a6 d4 35.Qc2 c4 36.Ra1 Bc5 Hoping for ...Bc5-a7. **37.Qxc4 Nxb2** -0.10/20

[Better is 37...Be6∓ -1.26/19 38.Qa4 Nxb2]

38.Qb3= Rb8? 1.32/19

[38...d3∓ -0.35/18 stays ahead. 39.Ree1 Nc4]

39.Qg3± e3 40.fxe3 and Nh2-g4 should not be overlooked **40...Nc4 41.Nf3** 0.69/20

[41.Ng4± 1.22/20 Bxg4 42.Qxg4

Nxd2 Remove Defender 43.Rxd2 dxe3 44.Rc2]

41...Re8± 42.Kh1

[42.Nxd4 Bxd4 43.exd4 Rxe2∓]

42...Bd6 1.39/19

[42...Qa7± 0.39/18]

43.Qh4 0.47/19

[43.Qf2± 1.39/19 d3 44.Ree1]

43...Re4 44.Qh5 0.01/18

[White should play 44.Qf2± 0.53/22 dxe3 *(44...d3 45.Ree1±)* 45.Rxe3 *(45.Bxe3 Nxe3 46.Rxe3 Bc5=)*]

44...d3↑ White is under pressure. Really sharp! **45.Ree1** -2.99/20 Black continues to play with concentration.

[45.Rf2= -0.01/22 Bg3 *(45...Nxe3? 46.Ng5+-* Double Attack *)* 46.Ng5]

45...Bf8-+ This pair of bishops is nice.

46.Nd4 Repels g7-g6

[46.a7 g6-+]

46...Nxd2 47.a7 Re8 48.Kg1 Nc4 Prevents Qh5-a5. **49.Rf1 g6**

[49...Rxe3? 50.Qxf7+ Kh7 51.Qxd7+- *(51.Qxf8 Re8+-)*]

50.Qh4 -6.50/20

[50.Qf3 -2.93/21 Qxf3 *(50...Nxe3?* is the wrong capture. *51.Qxf7+ Kh8 52.Rf2+-)* 51.Nxf3]

50...Nxe3 Black is clearly winning.

51.Rf2 Bc5 52.Kh1 Nc2 -4.26/19

[⌓52...Nxg2 -8.53/20 53.Rxg2 Qd5 *(53...Bxa7? 54.Qxh6 Bc8 55.Rxa7-+)*]

53.Raf1 -7.84/19

[⌓53.Nxc2 -4.26/19 Bxf2 *(53...dxc2 54.Rxc2 Bxa7 55.Rca2∓)* 54.Qxf2 dxc2 55.Qxc2]

53...Bxd4

[53...Qxa7 54.Rxf7 Rf8 *(54...Bxd4 55.Qxh6 Bh8 56.Qh7#)* 55.Rxf8+ Bxf8 56.Qf6+- *(56.Nxc2 dxc2 57.Qc4+ Be6±)*]

54.Rxf7 Bf5

[54...Qxa7 55.Qxh6 Bh8 56.Qh7#]

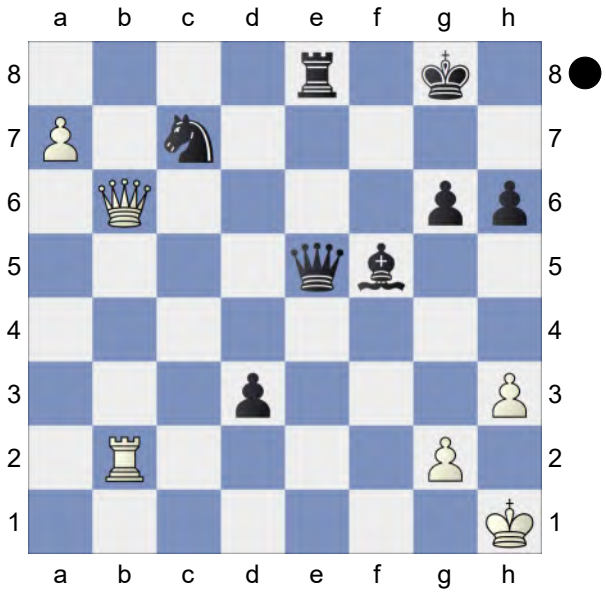
55.Rc7 Ne3

[55...Bxa7 56.Qc4+ Re6 *(56...Kh8? 57.Qf7+-)* 57.Rc8+±]

56.Rf2 Nd5 (→ ...Re8-e1+)

[Worse is 56...Bxa7 57.Qf6]

57.Qxd4 Nxc7 58.Rb2 Qe4 59.Qb6 Qe1+ 60.Kh2 Qe5+ 61.Kh1



d2! Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/Black=0.56

0-1

208 **C65**

□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2763**

■ **Swiercz,Dariusz** **2652**

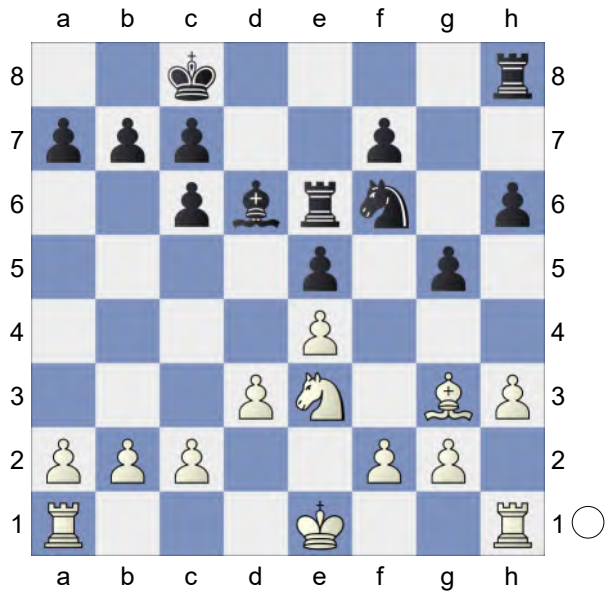
ch Saint Louis (3) 07.10.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Kitty Kat: 'C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 ' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**

[6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Bd6 0.27/26 *(7...Be6* -0.21/26 should be

considered.) 8.Nbd2= Qe7 9.Nc4 Bg4 10.h3 Bxf3 11.Qxf3 g5 12.Bg3 Qe6 13.Ne3 0-0-0 14.Qf5 Rde8 1.04/23 *(14...Nh5± 0.46/25)* 15.Qxe6+± Rxe6



16.Nf5 0.67/26 *(16.h4!± 1.14/22)* 16...Nh5 17.f3 Rg8 1.40/20 1-0 (50) Caruana,F (2781)-Swiercz,D (2656) Chess.com INT 2022 *(*Black should try *17...Rg6* 0.74/24 *)*]

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]

6...Be6 7.0-0

[7.Nxe5? Qd4 8.Rf1 Qxe5-+]

7...Qd6 7...Bd6 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. **8.b3** The position is equal. **8...a5 9.Bb2 Nd7 10.Ng5 a4 11.Ndf3 0-0N**

[Vorgänger: 11...f6 12.Nxe6 Qxe6 13.d4 *(13.Nh4 0-0 14.Nf5 g6 15.Ng3 Qe7 16.Qg4 Kh8 17.h4 Bd6 18.h5 Qf7 19.hxg6 hxg6 20.Ne2 axb3 21.axb3 Rxa1 22.Rxa1 Kg7 23.Ra7 b6 24.d4 Re8 25.c4 Kg8 26.Ng3 Kh7 27.d5 cxd5* ½-½ Caruana,F (2804)-Hou,Y (2657) Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden 136/110 2018 *28.cxd5 Nc5 29.Qf3 Kg7 30.b4 Nd7 31.Qg4 Kf8 32.Bc1 Ke7 33.Be3 Rh8 34.Ne2 Rh5 35.Ng3 Rh8 36.b5 Rg8 37.Bc1 Rb8 38.Qh3 Rf8 39.Be3 Rg8 40.Nf1 Kd8 41.Nd2 Ke7 42.Nc4 Rd8* 1-0 Caruana,F (2782)-Lazavik,D (2560) Julius Baer Rapid Div 1 W 2023 (1.5)*)* 13...exd4 14.Nxd4 Bxd4 15.Qxd4 0-0 16.Rfd1 *(16.Rfe1 c5 17.Qd3 Ne5 18.Qg3 b5 19.f3 b4 20.h4 c4 21.Bxe5 fxe5 22.bxc4 Ra5 23.Rad1 Rc5 24.Rd5 Rxc4 25.Re2 Re8 26.Red2 h6 27.h5 Kh7 28.Rd7 Rg8 29.Kh2 Rc6 30.R7d5 Re8* 0-1 Maghsoodloo,P (2742)-Eljanov,P (2691) Chennai Grand Masters 2023 (1.3)*)* 16...Rf7 17.f3 b6 ½-½ (26) Hablizel,F (2301)-Popov,V (2087) ICCF email 2016]

12.Nh4 Rfe8 13.Nxe6 Qxe6 14.Nf5 g6 15.Ng3

[15.Nh6+ is more complex. Kg7 16.Qd2 Qe7 17.Ng4]

15...Qd6 16.Qg4 Qe6 17.Qg5 Qe7 18.Qc1 Nf8 19.Kh1 Bd6 20.Ne2 Ne6 21.g3 a3 22.Bc3 c5 23.Kg2 -0.39/24

[23.f4± 0.46/23 Nd4 24.Qd2]

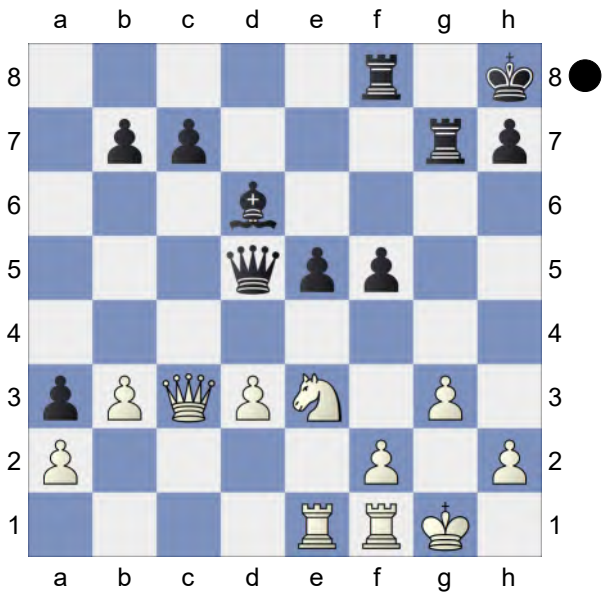
23...f5 24.exf5 gxf5 25.Ng1 Qf7 26.Qd2

[26.Nf3 looks sharper. e4 27.Ng5 Qh5 28.Nxe6 Rxe6 29.Qd1]

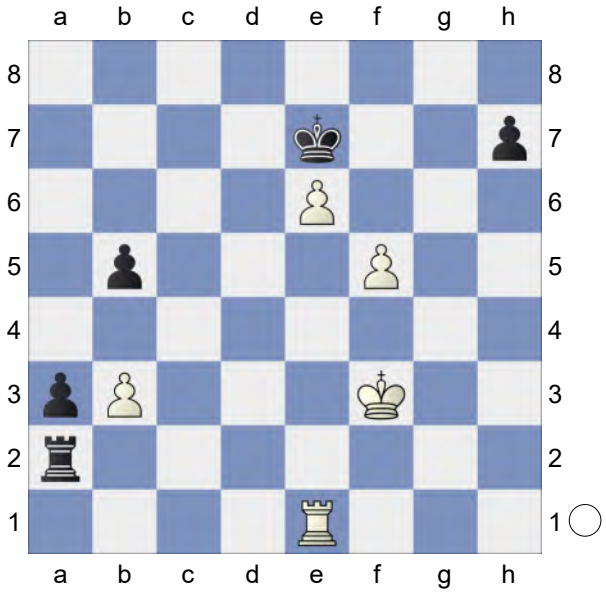
26...Nd4 27.Rae1 Re6 28.Bxd4 cxd4 29.Nf3 Re7 30.Nh4 Rf8 31.c4 dxc3 32.Qxc3 Qd5+ 33.Kg1 Rg7 34.Ng2 Kh8 35.Ne3 -1.11/20

[35.Qc4∓ -0.56/23 Qxc4 36.bxc4]

(Diagram)



35...Qb5 0.03/25
[35...Qe6!∓ -1.11/20 And now ...f5-f4 would win. 36.f4 exf4]
36.Nc4!= Re8 37.Qc1 -0.61/25
[37.Re3= 0.10/24]
37...Qd5 0.12/21
[37...Bb4!∓ -0.61/25 38.Re2 Rf7]
38.Nxd6 Qxd6 39.Qc3 Rd7 40.Re3 Qd4 41.Qa5 f4 42.Re4 Qb2 43.Rfe1 Rxd3? 3.72/22
[43...Rf8± 1.08/23]
44.Qxc7? 0.12/25
[44.Rxe5+- 3.72/22 Rf8 *(44...Rxe5? 45.Rxe5 Qa1+ 46.Kg2+-)* 45.Re8 *(45.Qxc7 fxg3)*]
44...fxg3! 45.hxg3 Intending Re4-h4 and mate.
[45.Qxb7? leads to mate. Qxf2+ 46.Kh1 Qxh2#]
45...Qc3!↑ Black has the initiative.
46.Qxc3
[46.Qxb7 Rxg3+ 47.Kf1 Reg8]
46...Rxc3 Endgame. KRR-KRR **47.R1e2** Threatens to win with Re4-a4! **47...Rc1+ 48.Kg2** Re4-a4! is the strong threat. **48...Rb1 49.f4 Rb2 50.fxe5 Kg7 51.Rf2 Rc8 52.Rg4+ Kh6 53.e6 Rf8 54.Rgf4 Rxf4** 9.49/16
[54...Re8± 0.84/27]
55.gxf4± Hoping for e6-e7. KR-KR **55...Kg7 56.f5 Kf6 57.Kf3 b5 58.Re2 Ke7 59.Re1 Rxa2**



60.f6+! Promotion. Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.34
1-0

209 **C79**
□ **Durarbayli,Vasif** **2626**
■ **Motylev,Alexander** **2577**
EU-ch 24th Petrovac (10) 18.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C79: Ruy Lopez: Steinitz-type lines with 3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6 5 0-0 d6 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 a6**
[5...Be7 6.c3 0-0 7.Re1 Re8 8.Nbd2 Bd7 9.Ba4 Bf8 10.Nf1 Ne7 11.Bc2 Ng6 12.Ng3 c6 13.d4 h6 14.h3 Qc7 15.Be3 Rad8 16.a4 Be6 17.a5 b6 18.axb6 axb6 19.Bd3 b5 20.Qc2 1-0 Dominguez Perez,L (2708)-Bacrot,E (2691) 103/234 Biel 2008]
6.Bxc6+ bxc6 7.d4N
[7.Re1 Bg4 *(7...a5 8.d4 Nd7 9.b3*

a4 10.Bb2 f6 11.Nc3 a3 12.Bc1 c5 13.d5 g6 14.Nb1 Bg7 15.Nxa3 0-0 16.Nb5 h6 17.Nh4 Ba6 18.c4 Bxb5 19.cxb5 Kh7 20.Qg4 Qe8 21.Nxg6 Qxg6 22.Qxd7 0-1 Vokhidov,S (2578)-Kuzubov,Y (2625) Julius Baer Rapid Div 3 L 2023 (2.1) *)* 8.h3 Bh5 9.d4

A) 9...Nd7 10.Nbd2 f6 11.Nc4 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 exd4 13.e5 fxe5 *(13...dxe5 14.Qxc6 Be7 15.c3 0-0 16.cxd4 exd4 17.Bf4* #7 4. d3 | Berlin without 4...Bc-4...d6 5...a6 *)* 14.Bf4 Qf6 15.Qxc6 Rd8 16.Bxe5 dxe5 17.Rxe5+ Be7 18.Re6 #6 4. d3 | Berlin without 4...Bc-4...d6 5...a6;

B) 9...Bxf3 10.Qxf3 exd4 11.e5 dxe5 12.Rxe5+ Be7 13.Qxc6+ #2 4. d3 | Berlin without 4...Bc-4...d6 5...a6]

7...exd4 8.Nxd4 8.Nxd4 scores better than 8.Qxd4. 8.Sxd4 punktet besser als 8.Dxd4. **8...c5 9.Nc6 Qd7 10.Na5 Qa4 11.Qd2N** -0.28/20

[11.Bd2 Be7 12.Re1 Be6 13.b3 and e4-e5 would now be decisive Qd7 14.c4 0-0! 15.Nc3 c6 16.Na4 Rab8 0.73/20 Dodges Na4-b6 *(16...Qc7=* 0.16/20 *)* 17.Bc3 0-1 Firouzja,A (2760)-Fedoseev,V (2690) Chessable Masters Div 1 Win rapid 2024 (1.4)]

[⌓11.Qe1 0.22/21]

11...Be6 12.f3 d5! 13.e5 Nd7 14.f4 -0.84/19

[14.b3= -0.25/18 keeps the balance. Qb4 15.Qxb4 cxb4 16.Re1]

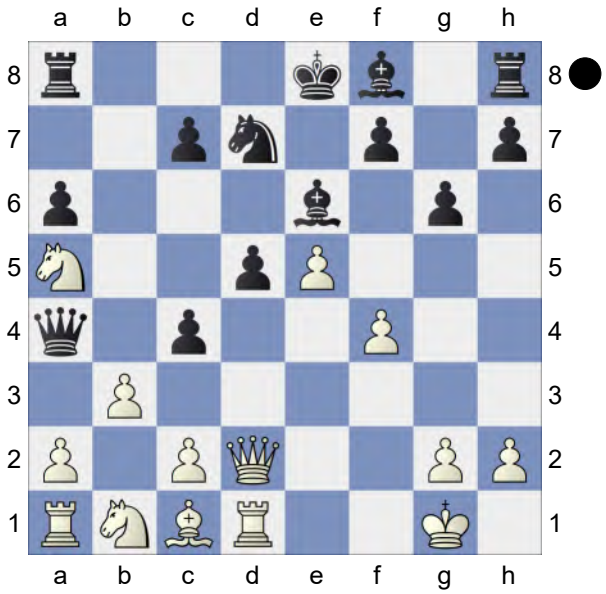
14...g6 -0.31/17

[14...c4∓ -0.84/19 15.a3 Bc5+ 16.Kh1 Bb6]

15.Rd1 -0.76/19

[15.b3∓ -0.31/17 Qb4 16.Qxb4 cxb4 17.a3]

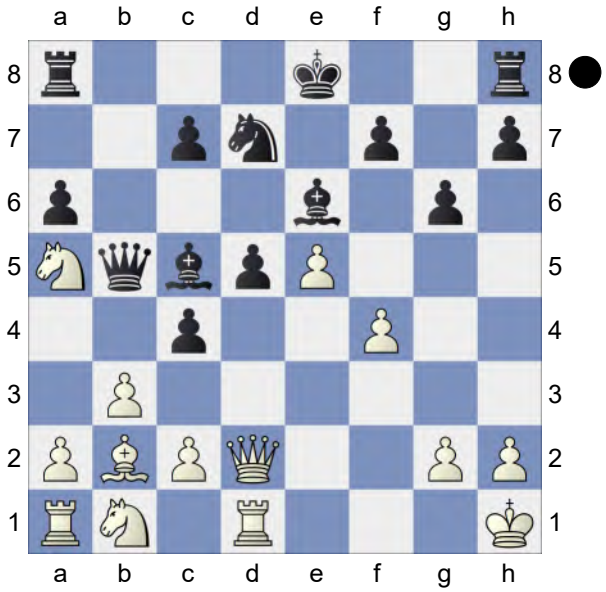
15...c4∓ Black is more active. **16.b3**



Qb5 17.Bb2 -1.65/18

[17.a3∓ -0.75/19]

17...Bc5+-+ 18.Kh1



Bb6 0.12/20

[18...d4!∓ -1.38/18 Hoping for ...Bc5-b4. 19.Nxc4 *(19.Bxd4? Bxd4 20.Na3 Qd5-+; 19.Na3 Bxa3* Deflection *20.Bxa3 c3∓)* 19...Bxc4 Pin]

19.a4!= Qc5 20.b4! Qe3 21.Qxe3 Bxe3 22.Nc3 d4 23.Ne2 Bg4 This pair of bishops is nice. **24.Rxd4** -0.46/19 **Bxd4∓**

[24...Bxe2 25.Re4 Nb6 *(25...c3? 26.Bxc3 Nb6 27.Rxe3+-)* 26.Rxe3+-]

25.Nxd4 Nb6 26.Nac6 -1.21/19

[White should try 26.Kg1∓ -0.43/17]

26...Nd5∓ 27.e6 0-0 -0.85/20

[27...Bxe6 28.Nxe6 c3 29.Nxc7+ Nxc7 30.Bxc3±]

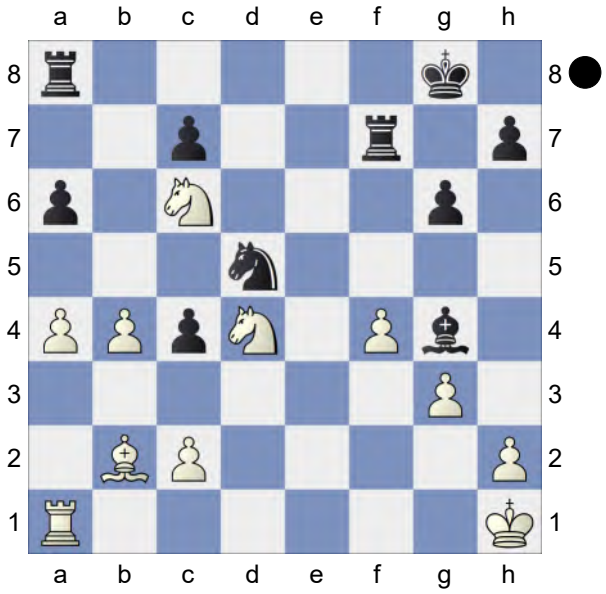
[27...fxe6?! 28.h3 c3 29.Bxc3 Nxc3 30.hxg4=]

[Better is 27...c3 -1.32/22 28.exf7+ Kxf7 29.Ne5+ Kg7 30.Bxc3 Nxc3 31.Nxg4 Rhe8]

28.exf7+ -2.35/21 This costs White the game.

[28.e7∓ -0.85/20 Rfe8 29.Re1]

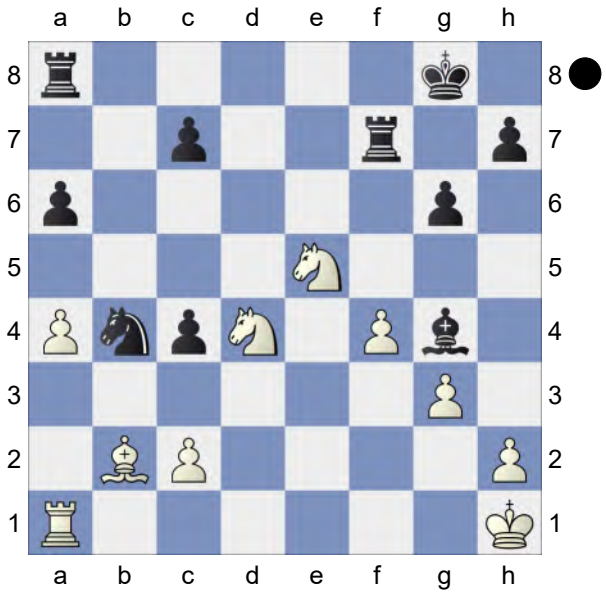
28...Rxf7-+ 29.g3



Nxb4! Decoy **30.Ne5**

[30.Nxb4 c5]

(Diagram)



30...c5! 31.Nxg4 cxd4 32.Nh6+ Kg7 33.Nxf7 Kxf7 Endgame KRB-KRN **34.Rc1** -4.71/19

[34.Bxd4 -2.96/20 was worth a try. Nxc2 35.Rc1 Nxd4 36.Rxc4]

34...c3 Black is clearly winning. **35.Ba3 a5 36.Kg2 Ke6 37.Kf3 Kd5 38.g4 Kc4 39.f5 gxf5 40.gxf5 Nxc2** Promotion **41.Be7** -9.56/18

[⌓41.Rxc2 -4.93/17 d3 *(41...Kb3? 42.Rg2-+)* 42.Rc1]

41...d3 42.Rf1 d2 43.f6 Kd3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.78/ Black=0.17 (very precise)

0-1

210 **C65**

□ **So,Wesley** **2752**

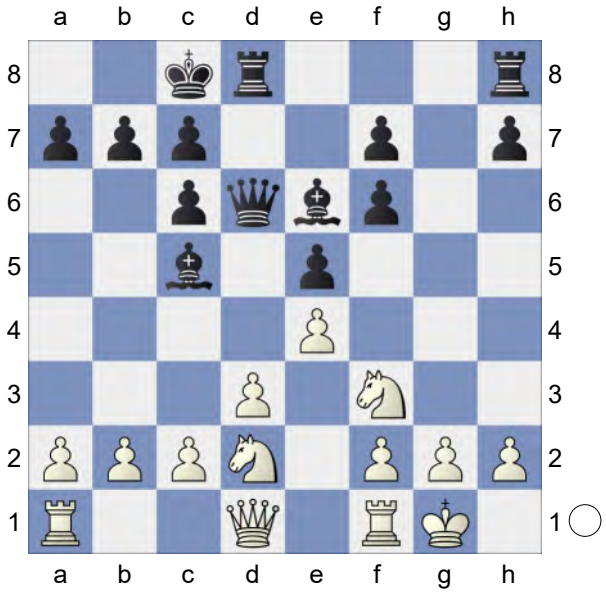
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2566**

CCT Final playoff rapid (2.1) 09.12.2023

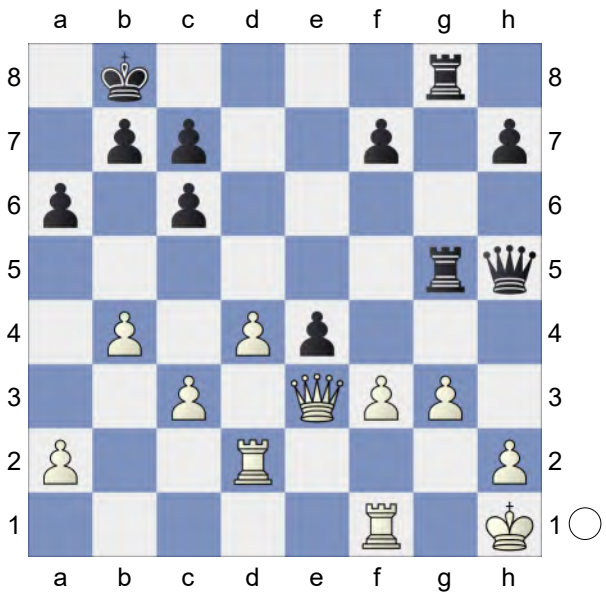
[TA]

1.e4 2 **e5** 2 **2.Nf3** 2 **Nc6** 3 **3.Bb5** 2 **Nf6** 3 **4.d3** 2 **Bc5** 3 **5.Bxc6** 3 **dxc6** 2 **6.Bg5** 3 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5. **6...Be6** 27 **7.Nbd2** 4 **Qd6** 24 **8.Bxf6** 30

The position is equal. **8...gxf6** 3 **9.0-0** 2 **0-0-0** 13

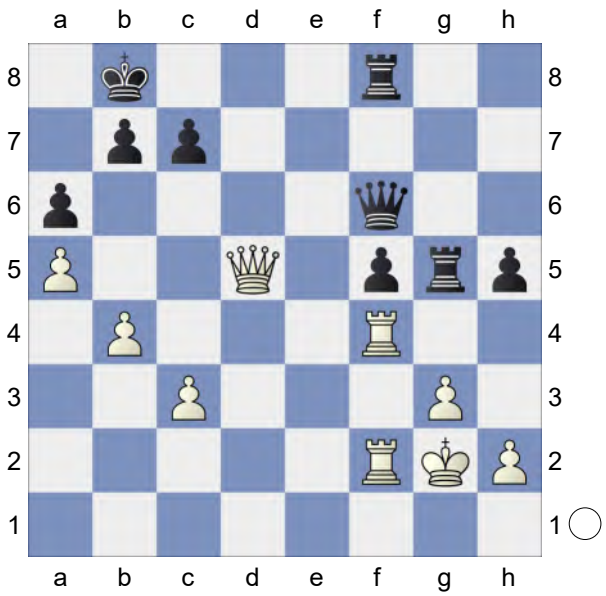


10.Kh1N 25
[Predecessor: 10.Nb3 Bb6 11.Nh4 Rhg8 12.Qh5 Qf8 13.Qf3 Qh6 14.Nf5 Bxf5 15.Qxf5+ Kb8 16.g3 ½-½ Fedoseev,V (2704)-Aronian,L (2785) Chess.com Rapid Wk6 Swiss 2022 (6)]
10...Rhg8 11 **11.Qe2** 23 **Rg7** 52 **12.Nc4** 2:22 **Qd7** 1:55 **13.Ne3** 8 **Rdg8** 26 **14.Nh4** 2:18 **Rg5** 38 **15.c3** 1:27 **a6** 56 **16.b4** 47
[16.g3!?]
16...Ba7 3
[Black should try 16...Bxe3= 17.fxe3 Rg4]
17.Rad1 30
[17.f4± is superior. Bg4 18.Qd2]
17...Bxe3= 57 **18.Qxe3** 7 Qa7 is the strong threat. **18...Kb8** 22 Inhibits Qa7+.
19.Rd2 1:36 **f5** 36 **20.exf5** 12 **Bxf5** 2 **21.d4** 21 **e4** 59 **22.Nxf5** 9 **Qxf5** 3 **23.f3!** 2 **Qg6** 35 **24.g3** 57 **Qh5** 1:03
[24...Qe6= 25.Rg2 *(25.fxe4? Rxg3 26.Rf3 R3g5-+; 25.Qxe4 Qh3∓)* 25...f5]



25.Kg1 10
[25.Kg2!±]
25...Qh3 42 (→ ...Rxg3+!) **26.Rg2** 4
[26.fxe4? is the wrong capture. Rxg3+ 27.hxg3 Rxg3+-+]
26...exf3 13 **27.Rxf3** 2 **f5** 21
[27...R5g6!=]
28.Rf4 18 **Qh5** 20 **29.Qf3** 4 **Qg6** 10 **30.Rf2** 11 White is more active. **30...Rf8** 19 **31.Kg2** 6 **h5** 6 **32.a4** 14 **Qg8** 29
[32...Re8= remains equal.]
33.a5± 14 **Qg6** 9 **34.d5** 38
[Better is 34.Qd3±]
34...cxd5= 10 **35.Qxd5** 2 **Qf6?** 44
[35...h4!= and Black has nothing to worry. 36.Rxh4 f4]

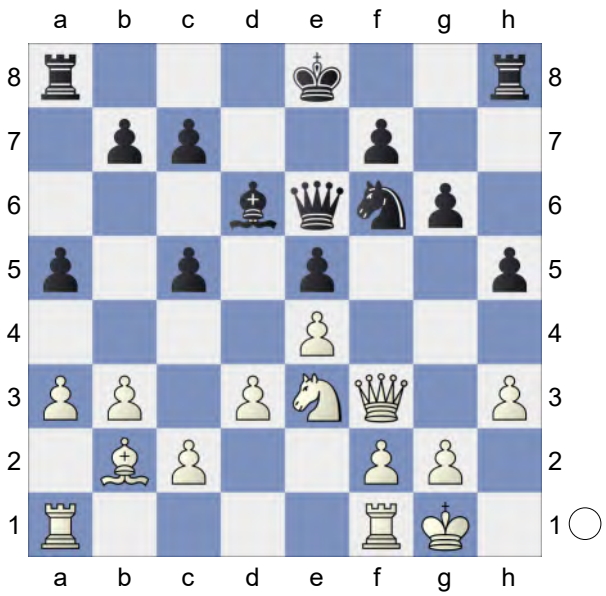
(Diagram)



Black cannot hold the game after this.
36.h4!+- 27 Deflection **36...Rgg8** 1:45 **37.Rxf5** 3 **Rd8** 2 **38.Qxb7+** 19 **Kxb7** 5 **39.Rxf6** 1 Endgame KRR-KRR **39...Rd3** 18 **40.R6f3** 3 **Rd1** 2 **41.Rf5** 14 **Rd3** 2 **42.R2f3** 10
[Not 42.Rxh5 Rgxg3+ 43.Kf1 Rxc3±]
42...Rd2+ 1 **43.Kh3** 1 **Rh8** 1 **44.Rc5** 16 **Rd7** 8 **45.Rff5** 4 **Rdh7** 2 **46.c4** 4 **Kb8** 3 **47.b5** 5 **axb5** 1 **48.cxb5** 1 **Kb7** 1 **49.a6+** 16 **Kb8** 2 **50.Rc6** 12 **Ka7** 6 **51.Rfc5** 2 **Kb8** 2 **52.Rf6** 24 **Rg8** 5
[⌓52...Ka7 53.Kg2 Rd8]
53.Rg5 3 **Rd8** 4 **54.Rfg6** 3 **Ka7** 4 **55.Rg7** 3 **Rxg7** 1 **56.Rxg7** 2 KR-KR **56...Kb6** 0 **57.Rg5** 4 **Rh8** 2 **58.g4** 2 **hxg4+** 4 **59.Kxg4** 1 **c6** 4 **60.bxc6** 1 **Kxa6** 1 **61.h5** 7 **Kb6** 1 **62.Rg6** 2
Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.30
1-0

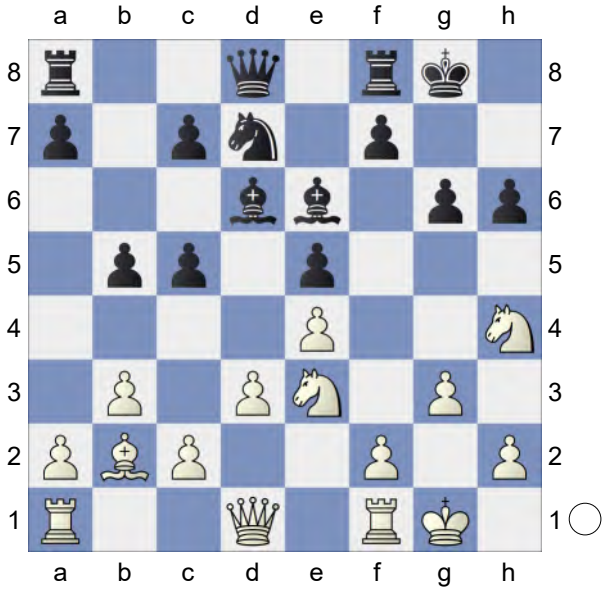
211 **C65**
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2736**
■ **Sadhwani,Raunak** **2603**
Chess.com U20 Speed blitz (3.3) 19.6.23
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Be6 7.0-0
[7.Nxe5? Qd4 8.Rf1 Qxe5-+]
7...Bd6 8.Nb3 The position is equal.
8...h6!? 0.57/20 8...b6 is a critical line. Exploring less charted territory. 8...b6 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[8...Qe7= 0.06/17]
[8...b6 9.Bg5 Qd7 10.Bh4 c5 11.Nbd2 Nh5 12.Ng5 Nf4 13.Nxe6 Nxe6 14.Nc4 f6 15.f3 a5 16.a4 h5 17.Bf2 h4 18.h3 Be7 19.Qe1 g5 20.Ne3 0-0-0 21.Nf5 Nd4 22.Ne3 Ne6 23.Kh2 1-0 Caruana,F (2766)-Aronian,L (2745) American Cup Elim rapid 2023 (2.4)]
9.Na5N
[9.h3 Qe7 10.d4 0-0-0 11.Qe2 Bxb3 12.axb3 exd4 13.Rxa7 Qxe4 14.Qc4 Qd5 15.Qa4 Bc5 16.Ra5 b5 17.Qa1 Kb7 18.c4 dxc3 19.bxc3 Qxb3 20.Ba3 Bb6 21.Rb1 Qc4 22.Ne5 Qe6 23.c4 Bxa5 0-1 Kaminski,V (2247)-Vivas Zamora, F (2336) Titled Tuesday intern op 17th Jan Early blitz 2023 (4)]
9...Qc8 10.b3 c5 11.Bb2 Nd7N
[Predecessor: 11...Bg4 12.Nc4 Qe6 13.Ne3 h5 0.64/21 *(Black should play 13...Bh5=* 0.09/18 *)* 14.h3 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 g6 16.a3 a5 0.93/19 *(16...Nd7±* 0.46/17 *)*



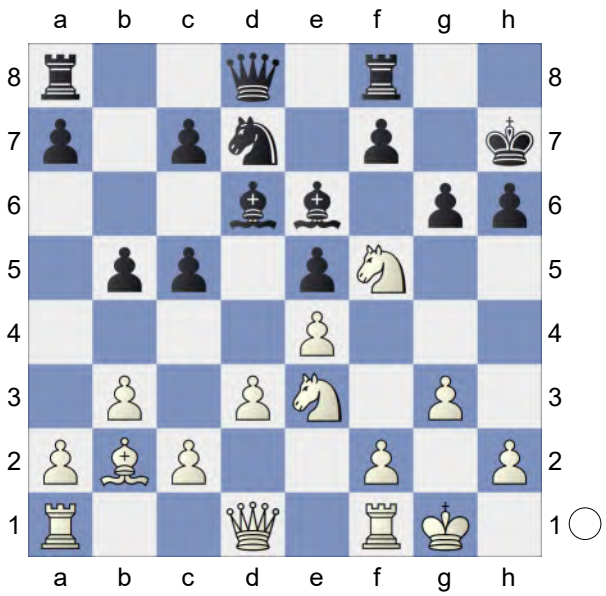
17.Nc4!± a4 ½-½ Zivkovic,V (2358)-Matanovic,L (2178) Bosnjaci op 20th 2015 (5)]

12.Nh4 0-0 13.Nc4 Qd8 14.g3 b5 15.Ne3 g6



Inhibits Nh4-f5. **16.Nhf5! Kh7**

(Diagram)



17.Kh1 0.18/18 **f6** 0.95/19

[17...gxf5 18.exf5 Rg8 19.fxe6 fxe6 20.Qf3+-]

[17...a5!= 0.18/18 remains equal.]

18.Nh4 f5 19.exf5 gxf5 20.Qe2 Qg5 21.c4 Rae8 22.Rae1 a6 23.Neg2 Bf7 24.Bc1 Qh5 25.Qc2 Nf6 1.02/19

[25...f4± 0.63/18 might be stronger.]

26.f3± Kg8 27.Re2 0.77/18

[⌓27.g4 1.36/20 fxg4 28.fxg4 Nxg4 29.Rf5 Trapped Piece]

27...Be6 28.Rfe1 Threatens to win with Re2xe5. **28...Bc8 29.Bb2 Nd7** 1.61/18

[29...Bb7± 0.96/19]

30.Kg1 0.31/19

[30.f4+- 1.61/18]

30...Bb7 1.59/19

[30...b4!± 0.31/19]

31.Rf1? -0.34/19

[31.f4± 1.59/19]

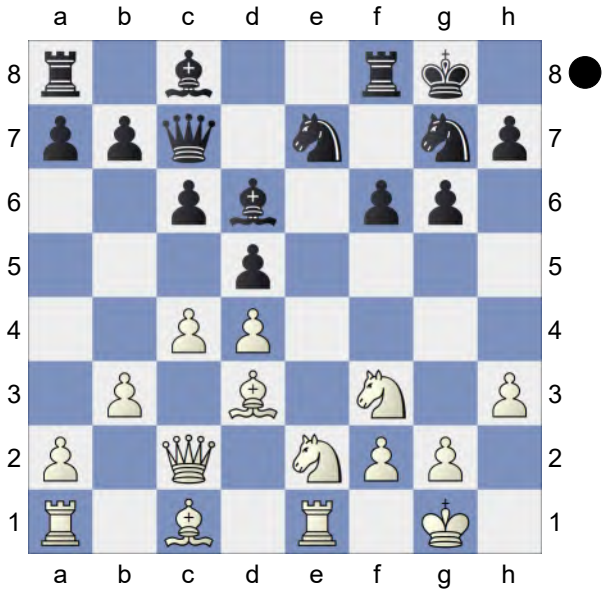
31...b4 32.Qd2 Kh7 33.Qe1 a5 34.a4 -1.01/18

[34.f4= -0.01/19 Bxg2 Remove Defender *(34...exf4 35.Nxf4 Bxf4 36.Re7+ Rxe7 37.Qxe7+ Rf7 38.Qe8±)* 35.Nxg2 exf4 36.Nxf4 Rxe2 *(36...Bxf4 37.Re7+ Rxe7 38.Qxe7+ Qf7 39.Qxf7+ Rxf7*

40.Rxf4±) 37.Nxh5 Rxe1 38.Rxe1]
34...Re6? 3.01/20 This move loses the game for Black.
[34...f4∓ -1.01/18]
35.Nf4+- exf4 36.Rxe6 fxg3
[36...Rg8 37.Re7+]
37.hxg3 Qf7
[And not 37...Rg8 38.Re7+]
38.Qe3 f4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/Black=0.46 Loss on time!?
0-1

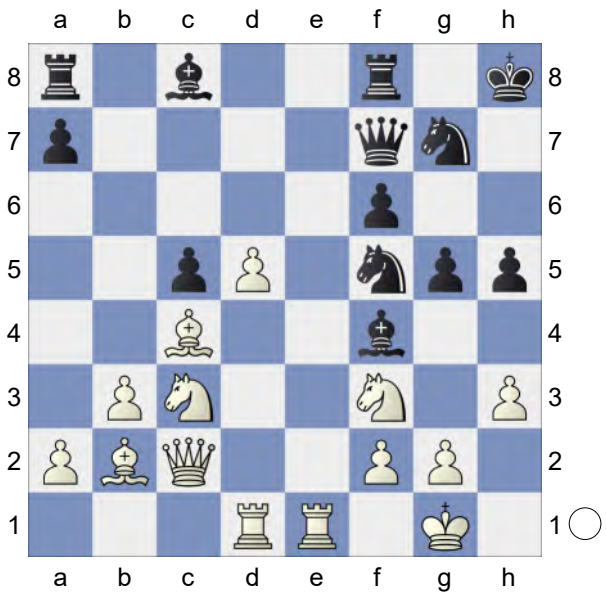
212 **C67**
□ **Sadhwani,Raunak** **2603**
■ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2736**
Chess.com U20 Speed blitz (3.20)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4** Moradiabadi,Elshan **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 0-0 9.d4 d5** White is slightly better. **10.c3 Bd6** 10...Re8 is the hot move. 10...Te8 ist der hippe Zug. **11.Bd3 Nce7 12.Qc2!?** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **12...g6 13.Nbd2 f6 14.Nf1 c6 15.b3N**
[Predecessor: 15.h3 Rf7 16.Bd2 Bd7 17.Re2 c5 1.52/20 *(17...Ng7± 0.53/22)* 18.dxc5± Bxc5 19.Bf4 Rc8 20.Rae1 g5 21.Ng3 Nxg3 22.Bxg3 1-0 Hou,Y (2649)-Caruana,F (2817) Grenke Chess Classic 4th 2017 (1) a5 23.Qd2 a4 24.b4 axb3 25.axb3 Ng6 26.h4 gxh4 27.Nxh4 Nxh4 28.Bxh4 Qf8 29.Qf4 Bd6 30.Qd4 Rd8 31.Re3 Bc8 32.b4 Kg7 33.Bb5 Bc7 34.Re8 Qd6 35.Bg3 Qb6 36.Qd3 Bd7 37.Bxd7 1-0 Sanjuan Garcia,M (2649)-Deslandes,P (2817) Deutschland 80/340 2000 (1)]
15...Ng7 16.Ng3 Nef5 17.Ne2 Qc7 18.h3 Ne7 19.c4



Black must now prevent c4-c5. **19...Bb4 20.Rd1** Threatens to win with a2-a3. **20...Nef5?** 2.77/19 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[20...Qd8± 0.53/23]
21.cxd5 Bd6 22.dxc6 bxc6 23.Bc4+ Kh8 24.Bb2 g5 3.22/18
[⌓24...Ne7 2.11/22 25.Ng3 a5]
25.Rac1+- Qe7 26.d5 c5 27.Re1 Qf7 28.Nc3 Bf4 29.Rcd1 h5 5.60/19
[29...Nd6 3.71/22 keeps fighting. 30.Ne2 Nxc4]

(Diagram)



30.d6! Qg6 31.d7 Black is weak on the light squares **31...Bb7 32.Bd5** Deflection **32...Ba6 33.Bxa8 Rd8 34.Bc6 g4 35.hxg4 hxg4 36.Nh4 Qh5 37.g3 Nxg3 38.fxg3 Bxg3 39.Ng6+ Kg8 40.Bd5+ Kh7 41.Nf4+ Kh6 42.Nxh5** White mates. **42...Nxh5 43.Re7 Bf4 44.Qh7+ Kg5 45.Ne4+ Kh4 46.Kg2 Rxd7 47.Rh1+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.26 (precise) /Black=0.36
1-0

213 **C48**
□ **Kovalenko,Igor** **2674**
■ **Bok,Benjamin** **2621**
Julius Baer Rapid Div 3 W (1.3) 30.08.23
[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nc3**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Qe7 6...Qd6 is setting a new trend. 6...Dd6 setzt einen neuen Trend.
[6...0-0 7.h3 Re8 8.Be3 Bf8 9.Bg5 a5 10.a4 b6 11.0-0 Qd6 12.Be3 Nd7 13.Nd2 Ba6 14.f4 Qb4 15.f5 Qxb2 16.Nb3 Qxc3 17.Bd2 Qb2 18.Bc1 Qc3 19.Bd2 Qb2 20.Bc1 Qc3 21.Bd2 Carlsen,M (2863)-Aronian,L (2773) lichess.org (Int.-m/3-rapid) 145/(9) 2020]
7.h3
[7.Be3 Bb4 8.h3 Nd7 9.Nd2 Nf8 10.Ne2 Ng6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Nb3 Be6 13.c3 Bd6 14.Na5 Rfb8 15.Qd2 c5 16.a3 Qd7 17.Kh2 Bf8 18.Qc2 Qb5 19.b4 b6 20.Nb3 c4 21.dxc4 Bxc4 ½-½ Salinas Herrera,P (2460)-Bok,B (2621) Julius Baer Rapid Div 3 W 2023 (3.2)]
7...Nd7N Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
[7...b6 8.a3 h6 9.Qe2 Bd7 10.Be3 Bxe3 11.fxe3 0-0-0 12.Qf2 Ne8 13.Qg3 f6 14.Nh4 Rg8 15.Nf5 Bxf5 16.exf5 Nd6 17.e4 Qf7 18.Qf2 g6 19.fxg6 Qxg6 20.g4 h5 21.0-0-0 hxg4 22.hxg4 1-0 Lozon Urena,X (2863)-Woelwer,P (2764) 6...c5 (Mai&Bangiev) 1994 (3.12)]
8.Qe2 Nf8N The position is equal.
[Vorgänger: 8...f6 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.fxe3 -0.27/26 *(⌓10.Qxe3 0.10/24 Nb6 11.Nd2)* 10...Nb6= 11.0-0-0 Be6 12.Kb1 0-0-0 13.g4 g5 14.Rdg1 h5 15.gxh5 Rxh5 Hoping for ...Rd8-h8! 16.Nxe5! Rxh3 17.Rxh3 Bxh3 ½-½ Fiszer,B (2146)-Chomczyk,M (2274) Warsaw Przepiorka Memorial 2019 (5)]
9.Be3 Bb4 10.Bd2 Ne6 11.0-0 -0.69/20
[11.Nxe5? Nd4 12.Qd1 Qxe5-+]
[11.Be3 -0.31/24 is superior.]
11...0-0 -0.21/25
[11...f6∓ -0.69/20]
12.Kh1
[12.Nxe5 Nd4 13.Qh5 g6 14.Nxc6

(14.Qg5? Qxg5 15.Bxg5 f6-+) 14...bxc6-+ *(14...Nxc6 15.Qf3-+; 14...gxh5? 15.Nxe7+ Bxe7 16.Rac1-+)*]

12...Bd6 13.Be3 Bd7 14.Rae1 c5 15.Qd1 b5 16.Ne2 Rae8 17.Ng3 Nd4 18.Nd2 Rd8 19.c3 Ne6 20.Nf5 Qf6 21.Qf3 Kh8 22.Qg3

[22.Nxd6 simplifies Qxf3 23.Nxf3 cxd6 24.d4]

22...Bc8 0.15/24

[22...Nf4∓ -0.34/22 is more appropriate.]

23.Nb3

[23.Nxd6 simplifies cxd6 24.f4 exf4 25.Bxf4 Qg6 26.Nf3]

23...Qg6 24.Qh4

[24.Nxd6 simplifies cxd6 25.Qxg6 hxg6 26.d4]

24...Rfe8 25.Na5? -1.22/24

[25.Nxd6!± 0.39/24 stays ahead. cxd6 26.Na5]

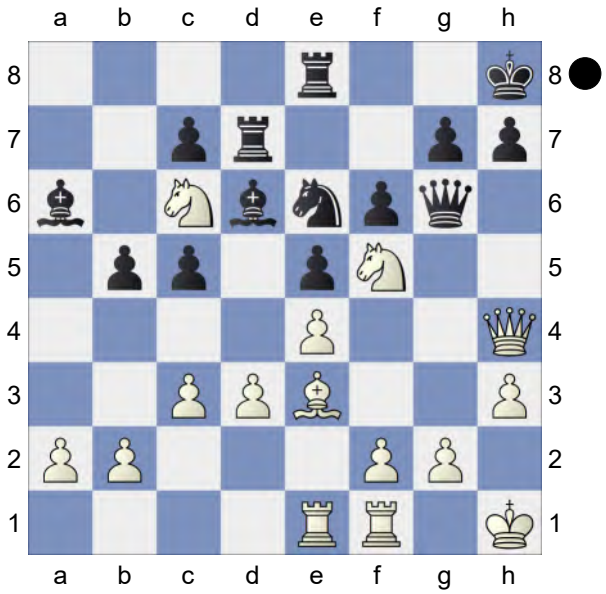
25...f6 -0.23/23

[25...Bf8!∓ -1.22/24 26.f3 Rxd3]

26.Nc6= Rd7 27.Nxa7 -0.67/25

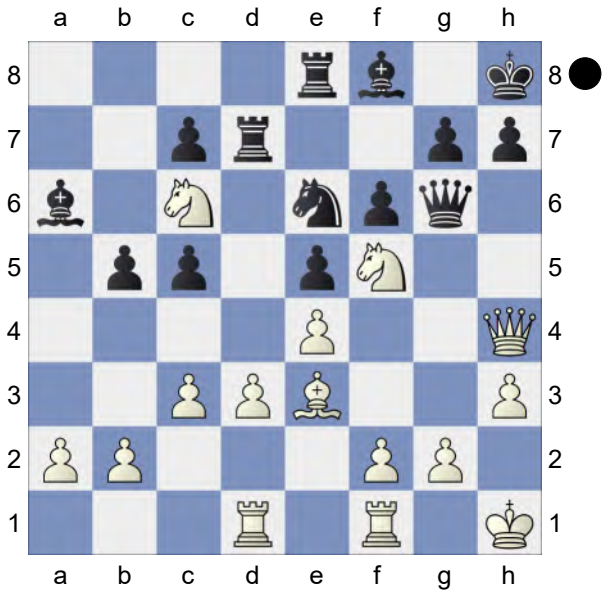
[27.f3= -0.25/24]

27...Ba6∓ 28.Nc6



Bf8! Black has strong compensation.

29.Rd1



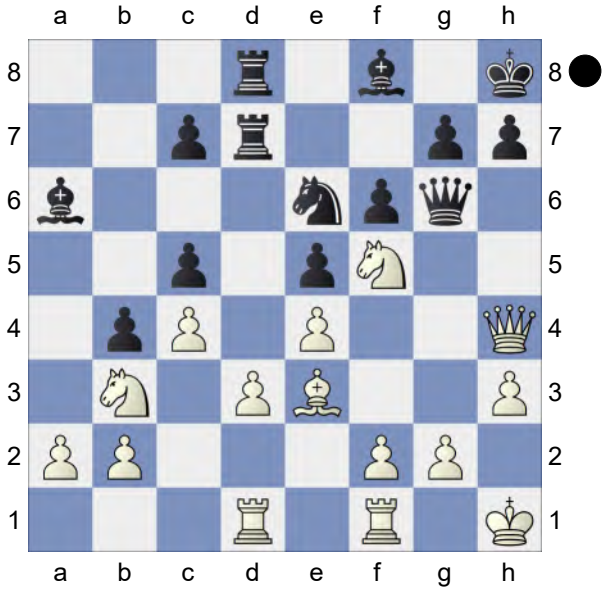
b4! 30.c4 Ra8

[30...Bb7?! 31.Na5 Ba8 32.f3=]

31.Na5 Inhibits Ba6-b7. **31...Rad8**

32.Nb3 -2.23/21

[32.Nc6∓ -0.89/21 Ra8 33.Na5]



This costs White the game. **32...Bxc4!-+**

33.Nc1 Bxd3 34.Nxd3 Rxd3 35.Rc1 -2.94/20

[35.Rxd3 -2.07/24 might work better. Rxd3 36.f3]

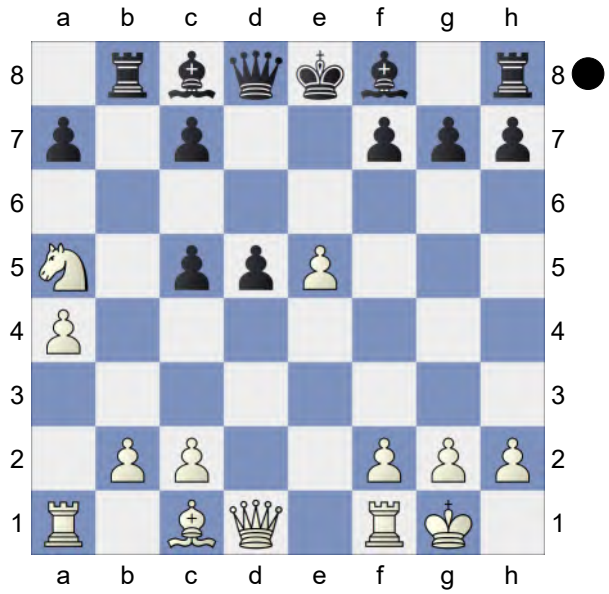
35...Ra8 36.Ra1 c4 37.Rfc1 c3

38.bxc3 bxc3 39.Rc2 Nd4 40.Bxd4 exd4 41.Qf4 Bd6 42.e5? -5.17/20
[42.Nxd6 -2.76/22 was necessary. cxd6 43.a4]
42...fxe5 Black is clearly winning.
[42...Bxe5? loses. 43.Qe4 Re8 44.Qxd3+-]
43.Qe4 Rf8 44.Qxd3 g2-g4 is the strong threat. **44...Qxf5**
[Weaker is 44...Rxf5 45.f3-+]
45.Rd1 White is weak on the dark squares **45...Qxd3 46.Rxd3 c5 47.Rcxc3 dxc3 48.Rxc3 Kg8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.41/ Black=0.17 (very precise)
0-1

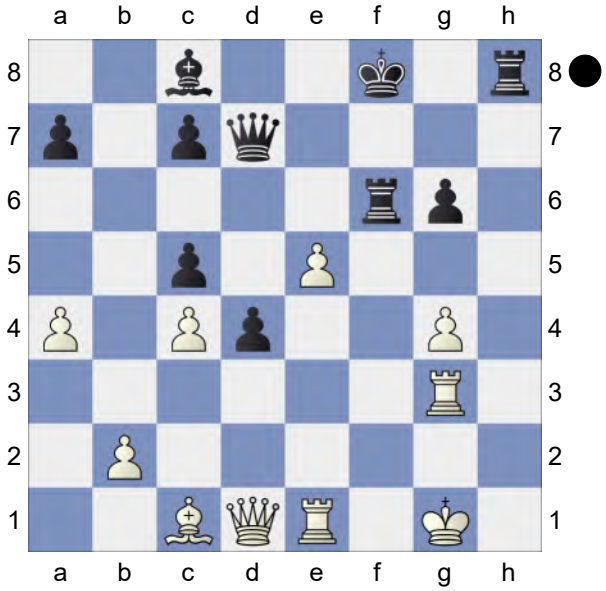
214 **C67**
□ **Guseinov,Gadir** **2636**
■ **Lazavik,Denis** **2578**
Julius Baer GenCup P/I m D2 rapid (2.3)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.dxe5 Nxb5 7.a4 Nbd4 8.Nxd4 d5 9.Nxc6 bxc6** The position is equal. **10.Nd2**
[10.Qd3 Qd7 *(10...Be7 11.Qg3 g6 12.Bh6 Rb8 13.b3 Rb4 14.Nd2 Rh4 15.Bg7 Rg8 16.Bf6 g5 17.Rfe1 Be6 18.Qc3 c5 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.Qa5 Kf8 21.Qxa7 Kg7 22.a5 Rb4 23.Qa6 c4 24.Qa7 c3 25.Nf3* Hakobyan,A (2608)-Melkumyan,H (2645) Chess.com INT 2023 1-0 (34)*)* 11.Nd2 a5 12.Re1 Bb4 13.c3 Be7 14.Nb3 c5 15.Qf3 0-0 16.Be3 c4 17.Nd4 Rb8 18.Re2 Rb6 19.Rd2 c5 20.Ne2 Bb7 21.Qh5 g6 22.Qh6 Re8 23.Nf4 Bf8 24.Qh3 Qxh3 Nakamura (2774)-Ponomariov (2754) St.Louis 2011 CT 1-4231 [John Donaldson (www.chesstoday.net)] ½-½ (37)]
10...Rb8!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[10...Be7 11.Nb3 c5 12.Na5 Qd7 13.f4 f5 14.exf6 Bxf6 15.Re1+ Kf7 16.Be3 d4 17.Qf3 c6 18.Bf2 Qd5 19.Nxc6 Qxf3 20.gxf3 Kg6 21.Ne5+ Kf5 22.c3 dxc3 23.bxc3 Kxf4 24.Rad1 Bxe5 25.Bg3+ Guseinov,G (2611)-Pashikian,A (2639) Khanty Mansiysk 2010 CI1-130 [Marjanovic, Slavoljub] 1-0]
11.Nb3N -0.62/23
[11.Nf3= -0.19/24]
[11.b3 Bf5 12.Re1 Bb4 13.Ba3 Bxa3 14.Rxa3 0-0 15.Nf1 c5 16.Ng3 Be6 17.Qd2 Rb4 18.Raa1 Qe7 19.Ne2 c6 20.h3 Rfb8 21.Rad1 Qc7 22.Nf4 c4 23.Nh5 Qe7 24.Re3 Qh4 25.g4 cxb3 Coll Sola,J (2721)-Aranaz Murillo,A (2695) Morso DEN 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Grob NZZ-3 p17 FSZ#721] 0-1 (86) 26.cxb3 Rxb3 27.Rc1 Rxe3 28.Qxe3 d4 29.Qa3 h6 30.Nf4 Qg5 31.Nxe6 fxe6 32.Rxc6 Qxe5 33.Qa2 Qe1+ 34.Kh2 Re8 35.Qc2 d3 36.Qxd3 Qxf2+ 37.Kh1 Kh8 38.Rc2 Qe1+ 39.Kg2 Rf8 40.Qe2 Qb1 Chapter C50-Games Game 5 (86)]
[11.Qf3 c5 12.Rd1 Be6 13.Nf1 Qd7 14.h3 Be7 15.Qg3 g6 16.Bh6 Rxb2 17.Rab1 Rxb1 18.Rxb1 Qxa4 19.Rb8+ Bd8 20.c4 Kd7 21.cxd5 Bxd5 22.Qc3 Qd4 23.Qa5 Bf6 24.Rb5 Bxe5 25.Rxc5 c6 Coll Sola,J (2736)-Aranaz Murillo,A (2698) Antalya 2018 200 Traps In The Opening [Grob NZZ-3 p17 FSZ#721]]
11...c5!∓ 12.Na5N
[Vorgänger: 12.Qf3 h5 13.h3 Be6

14.Rd1 -0.73/22 (*14.Na5!∓* -0.39/22 *Rb6 15.b3*) 14...Be7 -0.40/19 (Better is *14...g5∓* -0.73/22) 15.Na5!∓ aiming for Nc6. Qd7 0.65/25 Inhibits Nc6. (*15...d4∓* -0.48/23) 16.c4!± c6 17.Be3 -0.21/22 (*17.Nxc6!±* 0.80/19 *Qxc6 18.cxd5*) 17...g5 0.33/22 (*17...d4=* -0.21/22) 18.Nxc6!± Qxc6 19.cxd5 ½-½ Safarli, E (2608)-Tabatabaei,M (2677) Airthings Masters Div 3 L rapid 2023 (1.2)]



12...Rb6 Against Nc6 **13.c4** -1.68/18
[13.Qf3∓ -0.96/21 was necessary.]
13...d4-+ 14.Ra3 Be7 15.f4 g6 -1.21/23
[15...Bf5-+ -1.80/20 16.Qf3 0-0]
16.g4 -2.56/22
[16.Nb3∓ -1.21/23 was called for.]
16...h5 17.h3 hxg4 18.hxg4 f5 -1.10/20
[18...Ra6-+ -2.70/21 is more deadly. 19.Bd2 d3]
19.exf6 -2.44/18
[19.g5∓ -1.10/20]
19...Rxf6 20.Rg3 Bd6 21.Nc6? -4.38/17
[21.Qf3 -2.23/22 Qd7 22.Nb7]
21...Qd7 22.Re1+ Kf8 Really sharp!
23.Ne5 -5.03/19
[23.Qf3 -3.17/20 keeps fighting. Qh7 24.b4]
23...Bxe5 24.fxe5 -11.27/25
[⌓24.Rxe5 -4.89/20 Bb7 25.Rd5 Bxd5 26.cxd5]



24...Qh7! Weighted Error Value: White=0.74/Black=0.18 (very precise)
0-1

215 **C67**
□ **Shirov,Alexei** **2704**
■ **Navara,David** **2688**
44th Olympiad 2022 (10.6) 08.08.2022
[Kitty Kat]

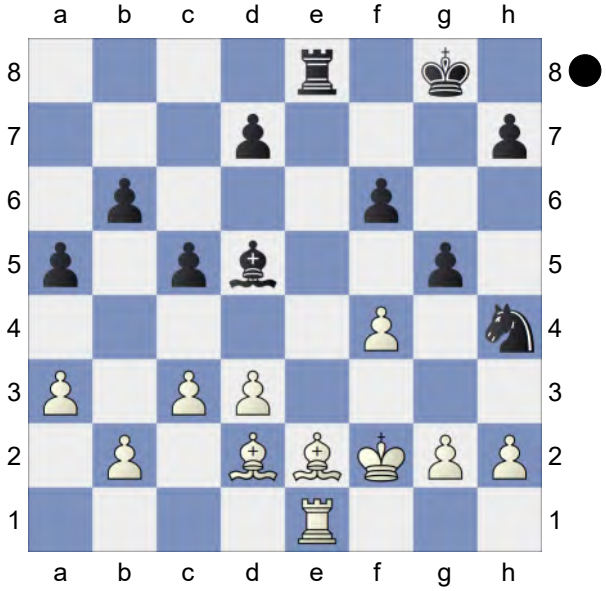
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Nd5** The position is equal. **11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 b6! 13.d3 Bb7 14.Nxf6+ Qxf6 15.Qe3 c5 16.Qf4 Qxf4 17.Bxf4 Nf5 18.Re1 f6 19.c3**

Bd5N

[19...Kf7 20.f3 g5 21.Bd2 h5 22.Kf2 h4 23.Be2 Bd5 24.a3 Rg8 25.Bd1 Be6 26.Bc2 Ne7 27.b4 Rc8 28.b5 a5 29.bxa6 Ra8 30.Rb1 Rxa6 31.a4 d6 32.f4 g4 33.c4 Nf5 34.Bc3 0-1 Paravyan,D (2586)-Lazavik,D (2541) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (7)]

20.a3 g5 21.Bd2 a5 22.Be2 Re8 23.f4 Nh4 24.Kf2

[24.fxg5? Nxg2 25.Kf2 Nxe1 26.Bxe1 fxg5-+]



24...h6

[24...Nxg2? too greedy. 25.Bf3 Nxe1 26.Bxd5+ Kg7 27.Bxe1+-]

25.g3 Nf5 26.g4 Nd6 27.c4 Bc6 28.b4 axb4 29.axb4

[29.fxg5 seems wilder. bxa3 30.gxf6 Re6 31.Ra1]

29...cxb4 30.Bxb4 Nf7 31.fxg5 Nxg5 0.60/25

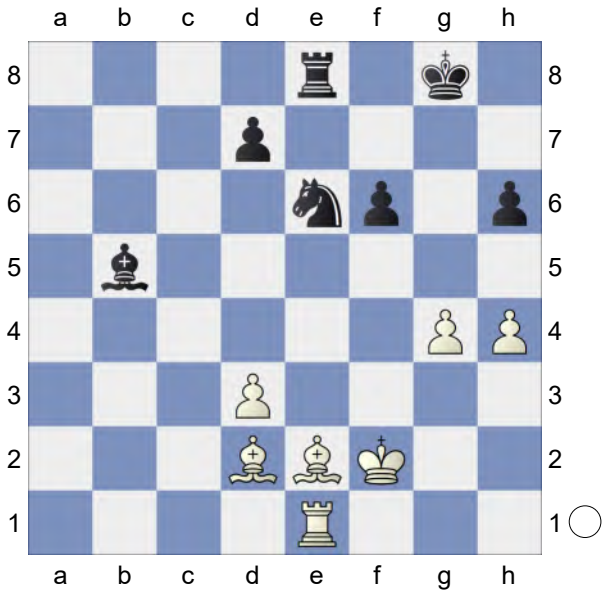
[31...hxg5= 0.24/23 32.Bd2 b5]

32.Bd2± b5 33.h4 Ne6 34.cxb5

[34.Bxh6 Nd4]

34...Bxb5

(Diagram)

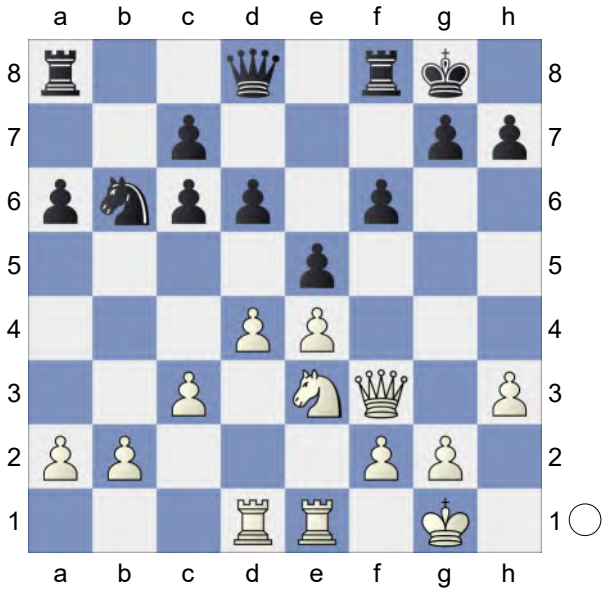


35.Rb1! Kh7! 36.Rxb5 Nd4 Prevents Bf3 **37.Rd5 Rxe2+ 38.Kg3 Rxd2 39.Rxd7+ Kg8 40.Rxd4** Endgame KR-KR. White is a pawn up. **40...Kf7 41.Kf4 Rd1 42.h5 Ke6 43.Re4+ Kf7 44.Ke3 Re1+ 45.Kd4 Rf1 46.Kd5 f5 47.gxf5 Rxf5+ 48.Re5 Rf4 49.d4 Rh4 50.Kc5 Kf6 51.Rd5 Rh1 52.Kd6 Rd1 53.Kc6 Rd2 54.Rd8 Rc2+ 55.Kd6 Kg5 56.d5 Kxh5 57.Rg8 Kh4 58.Rg6 h5 59.Ke5 Rd2 60.d6** And now Ke6 would win. **60...Kh3 61.Ke6 h4 62.d7 Kh2 63.Rg5 Rxd7** White is slightly better. **64.Kxd7 h3! 65.Ke6 Kh1 66.Kf5** White threatens Kf4 and mate. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless) **66...h2**

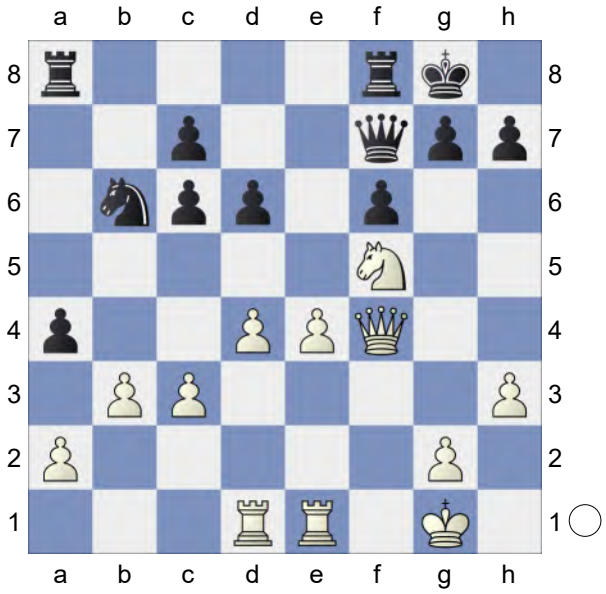
½-½

216 **C65**
□ **Gukesh,Dommaraju** **2732**
■ **Vescovi,G.** **2606**
6th Sharjah Masters 2023 (1.2) 17.05.23
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.0-0 Be7 6.c3 0-0 7.Nbd2 Bg4 8.Re1 Nd7 9.h3 Bh5** White is slightly better. **10.Nf1**
[10.g4!? Bg6□ 11.d4=]
10...Bxf3N
[10...a6 11.Ba4 b5 12.Bc2 f5 13.exf5 d5 14.a4 4...d6 Pin Variation: 5.O-O B-4...d6 Pin Variation: 5.O-O]
[10...Nb6 11.Ng3 Bxf3 12.Qxf3 Bg5 13.d4 27. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 5...Be7 − 7...]
11.Qxf3 Bg5 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.Nxe3 Nb6 14.Rad1 a6 15.Bxc6 bxc6 16.d4 f6 1.35/20
[⌓16...Re8 0.72/20]

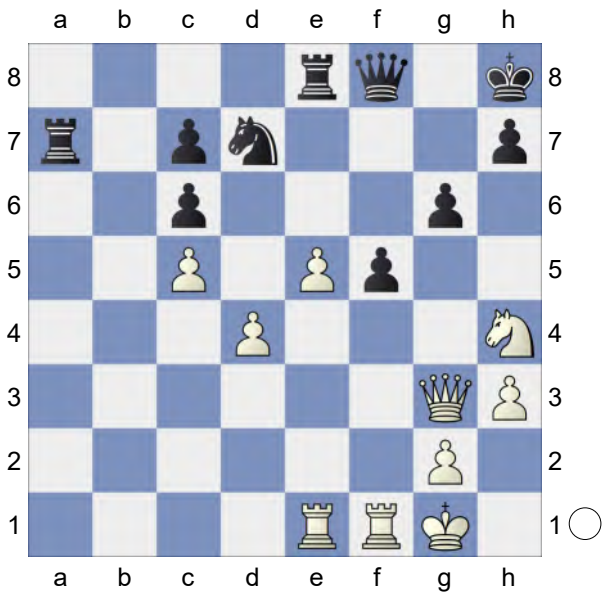


17.Qg3 0.59/22
[17.h4!± 1.35/20]
17...Qe8 18.f4 exf4 19.Qxf4 Qf7 20.b3 a5 21.Nf5 a4 0.88/21
[21...Kh8!± 0.39/23]



22.c4!± axb3 23.axb3 Nd7 24.b4 White is much more active. **24...Rfd8** 2.05/24
[24...Qxc4? 25.Qg4 Rf7 26.Nh6+ *(26.Rc1 Qxb4 27.Nh6+ Kf8+-)* 26...Kf8 27.Nxf7 Qxf7 28.e5+-]
[24...Rfb8± 1.11/22]
25.c5+- dxc5 26.Qg3
[Stronger than 26.dxc5 Ne5=]
[26.Qxc7?! cxb4 27.Nd6 *(27.Qxc6 b3±)* 27...Qe7±]
[26.bxc5?! Nf8±]
26...Qf8? 3.48/23
[26...Kh8 1.92/24]
27.bxc5
[Not 27.dxc5 Ne5=]
27...Ra7 7.34/25
[27...g6 2.23/21 28.Kh2 Qe8]
28.Rf1 Strongly threatening e5. **28...g6 29.e5 Kh8 30.Nh4 f5 31.Rde1 Re8** 9.98/26
[31...Qg8 3.16/22 32.Qe3 Qe6]

(Diagram)

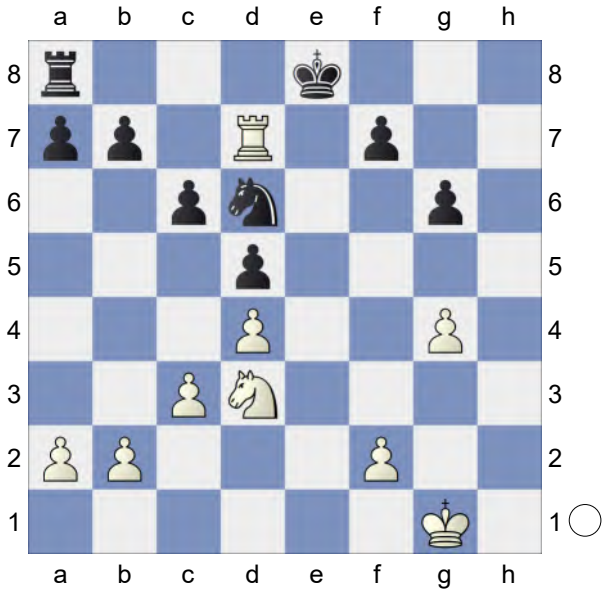


32.Nxg6+! Demolition **32...hxg6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.65 **33.Qxg6** **1-0**

217 **C67**
□ **Svane,Frederik** **2636**
■ **Bok,Benjamin** **2587**
CrunchLab Masters PlayIn rapid (7)
[Kitty Kat]

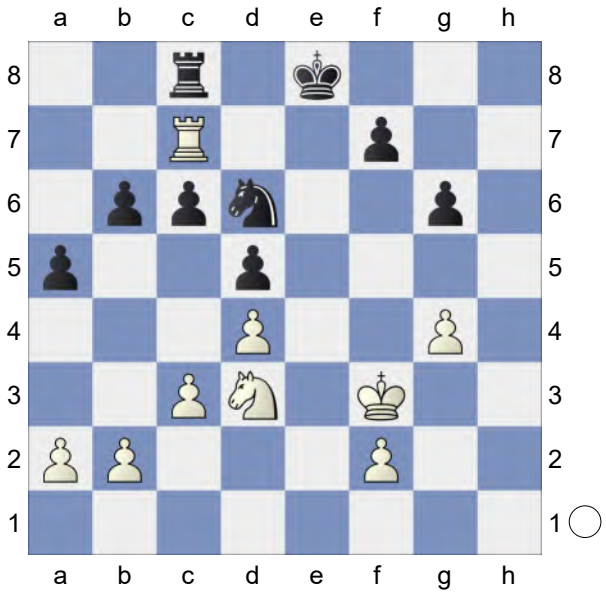
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Kramnik used to be a difficult opponent for Magnus, but while the balance had obviously changed, 2016 had become an extreme, the score being 7-0 with no draws before this game! Only 1 was classical chess, but even so, quite an extraordinary situation between the world ranking nos. 1 and 2! **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.c3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** White has an edge. **13.Bd3N**
[13.a4 a5 14.d5 d6 15.Nd2 Bf5 16.Ne4 Bxe4 17.Qxe4 g6 18.Bb5 Ng7 19.Bd2 Qe7 20.Qc4 g5 21.Re1 Be5 22.g3 Qd8 23.Qg4 h6 24.f4 f5 25.Qh3 gxf4 26.gxf4 Bf6 27.Qxh6 Kf7 1-0 Kumari,P (2582)-Mecelica,E (2548) 2009 (1.2)]
[13.Bf4 d5 14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Nf1 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5 18.Ne3 Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Qd7 20.Re1 c6 21.Bh6 Bg7 22.Bxg7 Kxg7 23.Qe7 Rd8 24.h4 h5 25.Re3 b6 26.Qe5+ Kg8 27.Kh2 a5 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2855)-Kramnik,V (2812) Leuven GCT blitz 2016 (14)]
[13.d5 b6 14.Bf4 Bb7 15.Qd2 h6 16.Na3 Bg5 17.Rd1 Bxf4 18.Qxf4 Qg5 19.Qxg5 hxg5 20.h3 Nd6 21.c4 f6 22.b3 Re8 23.Nc2 a5 24.Bd3 Kf7 25.Nd4 g6 26.Ne2 f5 27.Nc3 Kf6 ½-½ Herriot,B-Marchant,A corr 139/(128) 2018]
13...d5 14.Nd2 g6 15.Nf3 Ng7 16.Bh6!?N New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.
[Vorgänger: 16.Bf4 c6 17.Qe2 Bf5 18.Bxf5 Nxf5 19.Re1 Ng7 20.Be5 Bxe5 *(20...Ne6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Ne5 Re8 23.Ng4 Qd8 24.Qe5* ½-½ Pavlov,S (2451)-Asadli,V (2553) Morshyn Saint Charbel Cup 2nd 2024 (3) *)* 21.Qxe5 Qd7 0.41/19 *(21...Qb6=* -0.01/18 *)* 22.h3 ½-½ Mamedov,R (2651)-Radjabov,T (2723) Gashimov Memorial Blitz 9th 2023 (3)]
16...c6 17.Qd2 Nf5 18.Bf4 Nh4 19.Ne5 Bf5 20.Re1 Bxd3 21.Nxd3 Nf5 22.Be5 Bxe5 23.Nxe5 Kg7 24.Qf4 h5
[24...Nd6 is more complex. 25.f3 h5 26.g4 hxg4 27.Nxg4 Nf5]
25.h3 Qh4 26.Qxh4 Nxh4= Endgame KRN-KRN **27.Nd3 Nf5** 0.87/21 Prevents Re1-e7.

[27...Kf8= 0.28/19]
28.g4± White stays focused until the end. **28...hxg4 29.hxg4 Nd6 30.Re7 Kf8 31.Rd7 Ke8**



32.Nc5
[32.Rxd6 Ke7∓]
32...Rd8 33.Rc7 White is much more active. **33...Rb8 34.Kg2 a5 35.Kf3 b6** 1.52/21
[⌓35...g5 1.12/21]
36.Nd3
[Stronger than 36.Rxc6 bxc5 37.Rxd6 cxd4=]
36...Rc8

(Diagram)



37.Ra7 g5 38.Ne5 Nc4? 3.73/21
[38...c5 1.65/19]
39.Nxf7+- Kf8? 5.77/20
[39...c5 3.35/19 40.b3 *(40.Nxg5 Nxb2 41.Kf4 Nd1+-)* 40...cxd4]
40.Nxg5 Nxb2 41.Kf4 Threatens to win with Ng5-h7+. **41...Nd1 42.Nh7+ Kg8 43.Nf6+ Kf8 44.Kf5** White mates. **44...Nxf2 45.Kg6 Nxg4 46.Rf7#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.46
1-0

218 **C67**
□ **Fedoseev,Vladimir** **2674**
■ **Indjic,Aleksandar** **2641**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early ..
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4** ChessBase **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Bd7 10.h3 Be7 11.Rd1 Kc8 12.Bg5 h6** The position is equal. **13.Bxe7 Nxe7 14.Ne2**
[14.Rd2 c5 15.Rad1 Be6 16.Ne1

Ng6 17.Nd3 b6 18.Ne2 Bxa2 19.b3 c4 20.Ndc1 cxb3 21.cxb3 Bb1 22.f4 Kb7 23.Nc3 Bf5 24.g4 Bc8 25.Nd3 h5 26.f5 Ne7 27.Nb5 hxg4 28.hxg4 Rh4 Anand,V (2775)-Carlsen,M (2870) Chennai IND 2013 [Mark Crowther] ½-½ (64)]

14...g5N Prevents Nf4. New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.

[Predecessor: 14...Ng6 15.Ng3 c5 16.Nh5 Rg8 17.Re1 a5 18.Rad1 Ra6 19.Nd2 a4 20.Ne4 Nxe5 ½-½ (54) Naiditsch,A (2709)-Adams, M (2740) Tromsoe 2014 CBM 162 [ChessBase] 21.f4 Nc4 22.b3 Nd6 23.Nxc5 Rc6 24.Nxd7 Kxd7 25.c4 Rc5 26.g4 b5 27.Re5 Kc6 28.cxb5+ Rxb5 29.Rc1+ Kd7 30.bxa4 Rxe5 31.fxe5 Nb7 32.Rc2 Nd8 33.Rd2+ Kc8 34.Kg2 Nc6 35.Rd5 Nb4 Coll Sola,J (2709)-Ellithorpe,G (2740) Wijk aan Zee 2014 Inf 42 [FS 106] ½-½ (54)]

15.Ng3 c5 16.Re1 b6 17.Rad1 Be6 18.b3 -0.66/20

[18.Nh5= -0.28/19 was preferrable.]

18...a5∓ 19.Nh5 a4 20.c4 Rd8 21.Ng7 Rxd1 22.Rxd1 axb3 23.axb3 Ra3 24.Nxe6 fxe6 Endgame KRN-KRN

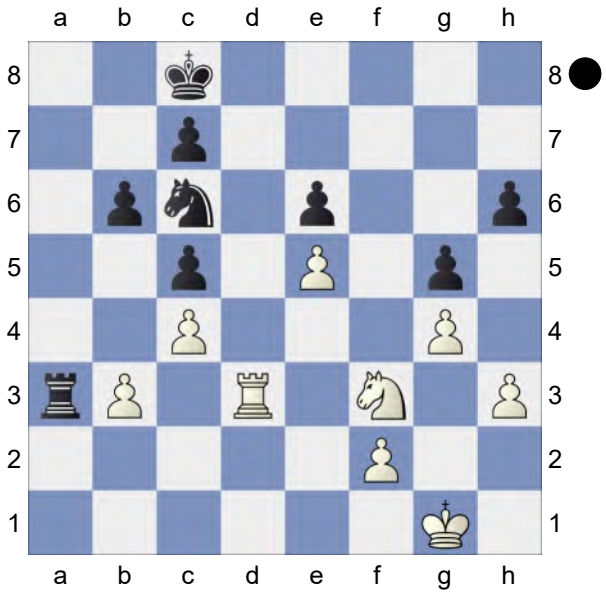
25.Rd3 Nc6 -0.21/24

[25...b5∓ -0.67/23 26.cxb5 Nd5]

26.g4 -1.41/23

[26.Kh2!= -0.21/24]

(Diagram)



26...Nb4 -0.36/24

[26...Na5!∓ -1.41/23 Strongly threatening ...Nxc4! 27.Nd2 Ra1+ 28.Kg2 Rd1]

27.Rc3 -0.86/23

[27.Re3∓ -0.36/24]

27...Kd7 -0.19/25

[Black should try 27...Na2∓ -0.86/23 28.Re3 Nc1]

28.h4!= gxh4 29.Nxh4 Nc6 30.Nf3 Ke7 31.Kg2 Ra2 32.Re3 Rb2 33.Kg3 -0.74/24

[33.Nh2= -0.10/22 remains equal.]

33...Na5∓ 34.Nh4 -1.62/20 White is now going downhill.

[34.Kh4!∓ -0.36/23]

34...Rxb3-+

[Stronger than 34...Nxb3 35.Rf3∓]

35.Rxb3 Nxb3 KN-KN **36.Nf3 c6 37.Kf4 b5** -1.37/24

[37...Kf7-+ -2.32/25 38.Ke4 Kg6]

38.Ke3 -2.52/25

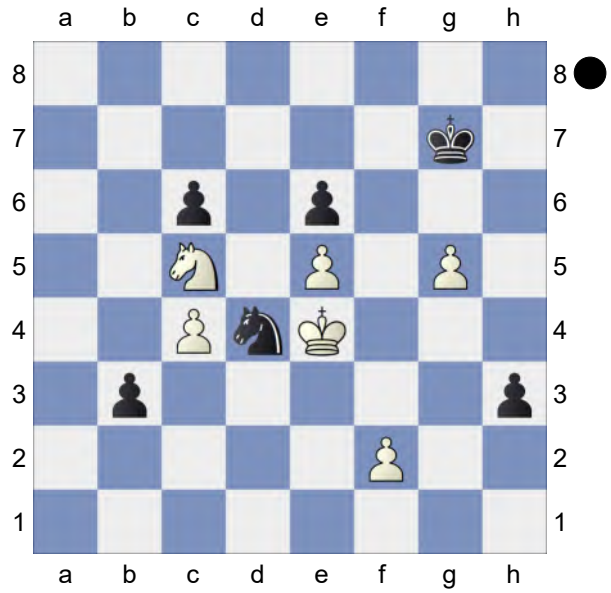
[38.Ne1∓ -1.37/24]

38...Kf7 -1.23/23

[Worse is 38...bxc4 39.Ne1∓]

[38...Na5-+ -2.52/25 has better winning chances. 39.cxb5 Nc4+ 40.Kd3 cxb5]

39.g5? -6.01/24
[39.cxb5∓ -1.23/23 cxb5 40.Ne1]
39...h5 40.Nh4 Nd4 aiming for ...Nf5+.
41.Kd3 Nf5 42.Ng2 h4 43.Nf4 Nd4 44.Kc3 -8.53/23
[⌓44.g6+ -4.38/22 Kg7 45.Kd2]
44...b4+ 45.Kd3 Kg7 46.Ke4 b3 (→ ...b2) **47.Nd3 h3** Black mates.
48.Nxc5



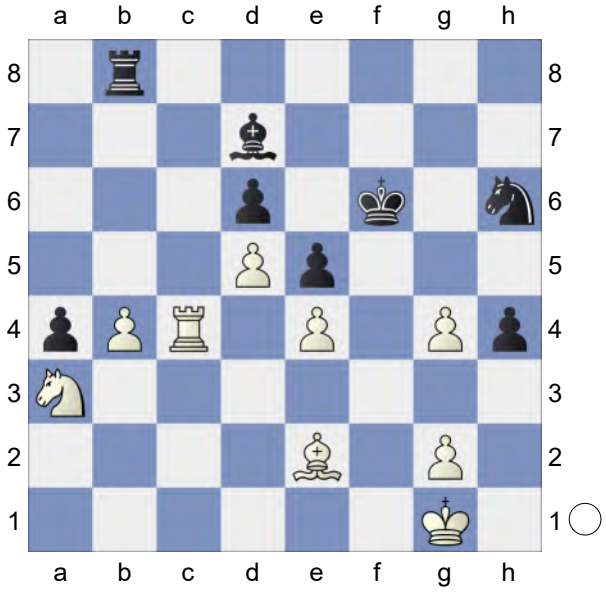
b2! 49.Kxd4 b1Q 50.Nxe6+ Kg8
Weighted Error Value: White=0.82/ Black=0.21 (precise)
0-1

219 **C65**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2792**
■ **Anand,Viswanathan** **2751**
7th Gashimov Mem Blitz (13.3) 23.12.21
[Kitty Kat]

C78: Ruy Lopez: Archangelsk and Möller Defences **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Ba4 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.c3 a6**
[7...Bb6 8.h3 Ne7 9.Re1 Ng6 10.d4 c6 11.Bc2 Re8 12.Nbd2 Bc7 13.Nf1 d5 14.Bg5 dxe4 15.Bxe4 exd4 16.Bxf6 Qxf6 17.Bxg6 Rxe1 18.Qxe1 fxg6 19.Qe8+ Qf8 20.Qxf8+ Kxf8 21.Nxd4 Bd7 22.Ne3 1-0 Winkler,T (2684)-Fischer,F (2606) 4647 Hastings 1946 (2.4)]
8.h3 b5N
[8...Ba7 9.Re1 Ne7 10.Nbd2 Ng6 11.d4 *(11.Nf1 c6 12.d4 exd4 13.cxd4 d5 14.e5 Ne4 15.Bc2 f5 16.a4 Nh4 17.Ra3 Be6 18.Re2 Kh8 19.Nxh4 Qxh4 20.b4 Rae8 21.Rf3 Rf7 22.Nh2 g5 23.b5 Rc7 24.bxa6 bxa6 25.Bb2 Rg8* 0-1 Neagu,L (2557)-Stalmach,K (2565) Vinchev Memorial email 2013*)* 11...c5 12.Bc2 b5 13.Nf1 cxd4 14.cxd4 Bb7 15.Be3 Nxe4 16.dxe5 Bxe3 17.Rxe3 Ng5 18.N3h2 Nf4 19.Qg4 dxe5 20.Rxe5 Bxg2 21.Rxg5 Qxg5 22.Qxg5 Nxh3+ 23.Kxg2 ½-½ Kobalia,M (2679)-Lysyj,I (2629) (m/1) 112/182 2011 Nxg5 24.a4 Ne6 25.Nf3 g6 26.Ne3 Kg7 27.Bb3 Nc5 28.Bd5 Rab8 29.axb5 Rxb5 30.b3 Nxb3 31.Rxa6 Rd8 ½-½ Lependin,V (2679)-Lusgin,V (2629) 67/(506) Mondariz Balneario 1996]
9.Bc2 Bb6 10.Re1 White has an edge.
10...h6 11.Be3 -0.16/21
[⌓11.a4 0.24/21]
11...Bxe3= 12.Rxe3 Ne7 13.d4 Ng6 14.Nbd2 c5 15.Nf1 Qc7 16.Ng3 Be6 17.Bd3 Nf4 18.Bf1 Rfd8 19.d5 Bd7 20.Ne1 c4 -0.17/19
[20...Kh8∓ -0.58/20]
21.Nc2 -0.56/19
[21.b3= -0.17/19]
21...a5 22.Re1 -1.27/21
[22.a4∓ -0.40/20]
22...h5∓ 23.Kh2 -1.82/24
[23.Nh1∓ -1.25/20 might work better.]
23...h4-+ 24.Nh1 Qc5 -1.13/23

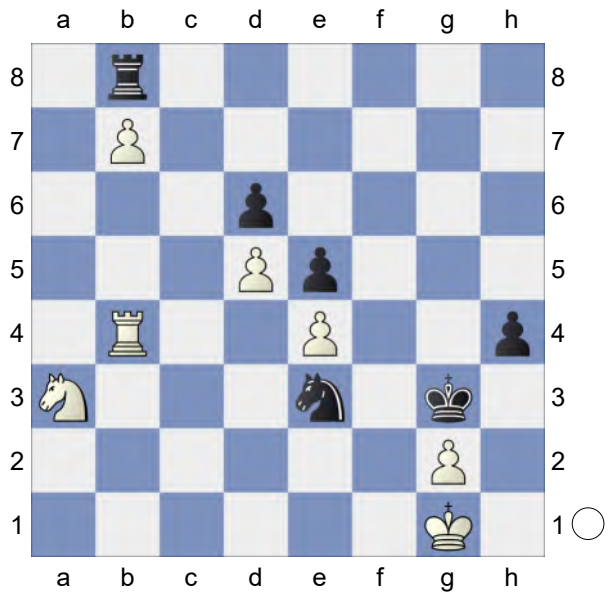
[24...g6-+ -1.79/22 25.g3 N4h5]
25.Qf3 Nh7 26.Qe3 Qxe3 27.Rxe3 Ng5 -1.21/22
[27...a4-+ -1.61/22 28.g3 Ng6]
28.f3 -2.07/22
[28.b3∓ -1.21/22]
28...Rab8 -1.11/22
[28...a4!-+ -2.07/22 29.Rd1 Ng6]
29.Nf2 Rdc8 -0.81/24
[⌓29...a4 -1.46/22 30.Nb4 Rbc8]
30.b3∓ cxb3 31.axb3 a4 32.b4 -1.39/24
[32.bxa4∓ -0.61/23 bxa4 33.Nb4]
32...g6 -0.65/25
[32...f5∓ -1.39/24 33.Nd1 Kf8]
33.Na3∓ f5 -0.40/24
[33...Nh5!∓ -0.76/24]
34.Rc1 -0.92/24
[34.Rb1!∓ -0.40/24]
34...Kg7 -0.34/23
[34...fxe4∓ -0.92/24 35.fxe4 Rf8]
35.Kg1 -0.78/23
[35.Rb1!∓ -0.34/23]
35...Nf7 -0.20/22
[35...Kf6∓ -0.78/23]
36.Nd3 -0.87/22
[36.Rc2= -0.20/22]
36...Nh5 37.Ree1 -1.21/23
[37.Nf2 -0.71/24]
37...Ng3 -0.61/23
[37...fxe4∓ -1.21/23 38.fxe4 g5]
38.Nf2 fxe4
[38...Kf6 looks sharper. 39.Rc2 fxe4 40.fxe4 Ng5]
39.Nxe4 Nxe4 40.fxe4 Ng5 41.Bd3 Rf8 42.Re2 Nf7 0.13/26
[Black should try 42...Rf4∓ -0.45/22]
43.Rf2 Rfc8 44.Rfc2 g5 45.c4 -0.91/27
[45.Be2= -0.15/24]
45...bxc4∓ 46.Rxc4 Rxc4 47.Rxc4 Kf6 0.05/26
[47...g4∓ -0.34/27]

48.Be2 g4 49.hxg4 -0.91/26
[49.Bxg4= 0.01/25 remains equal. Bxg4 50.hxg4]
49...Nh6? 1.51/25
[49...Bb5∓ -0.91/26 50.Nxb5 Rxb5]

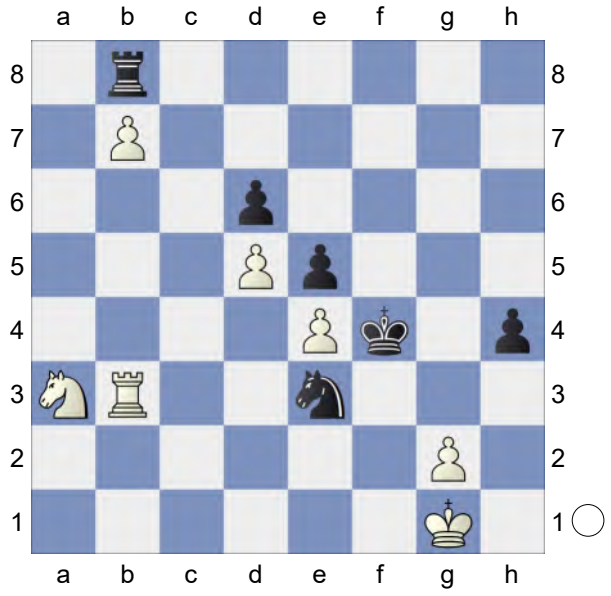


50.b5± Bxg4 51.Bxg4 0.15/24
[Better is 51.Bd3± 1.36/22]
51...Nxg4= 52.Rxa4± Endgame Rb4 would now be deadly. KRN-KRN. White is a pawn up. **52...Kg5 53.Rb4 Ne3** 2.00/27
[53...Ra8= 0.06/24 54.Rb3 Nf6]
54.b6+- Kf4 55.b7 Kg3

(Diagram)



56.Rb3! Kf4



57.Rb4 0.01/23
[White has to play 57.Kf2!+- 1.86/27 Ng4+ 58.Ke2]
57...Kg3= 58.Nb1 0.63/23
[58.Rb1± 1.21/23]
58...Nc2? 5.27/22
[58...Nxg2± 0.63/23 59.Rb3+ Ne3 60.Rxe3+ Kf4]
59.Rb3+? 0.56/25
[59.Rb2+- 5.27/22]
59...Kf4± 60.Nd2 0.36/26
[60.Nc3± 1.06/26]
60...Nd4 61.Rb1 0.07/24
[61.Rb6± 0.54/26 might be stronger. Ke3 62.Nc4+ Kxe4 63.Ra6 *(63.Nxd6+ Kxd5 64.Kf2 Nc6±; 63.Rxd6 Rxb7 64.Rg6 Kxd5∓)* 63...Kxd5 64.Na5 *(64.Rxd6+?* is the wrong capture. *Kxc4 65.Rh6 Rxb7-+; 64.Nxd6 Nc6=)*]
61...Ke3= 62.Nc4+ Kxe4 63.Nxd6+ Kxd5 64.Nf7 e4 65.Kf2 Nf5? 5.82/22
[65...Ke6= 0.12/23 and Black stays safe.]
66.Rb5++- White is clearly winning.
66...Ke6 67.Ng5+ Kf6 68.Nxe4+ Kg6 Both players deserved the win here. Weighted Error Value: White=0.47/ Black=0.40 **69.Nc5**
1-0

220	**C65**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza**	**2793**
■ **Rapport,Richard**	**2764**
(ct) 153/129	2022

[TA]

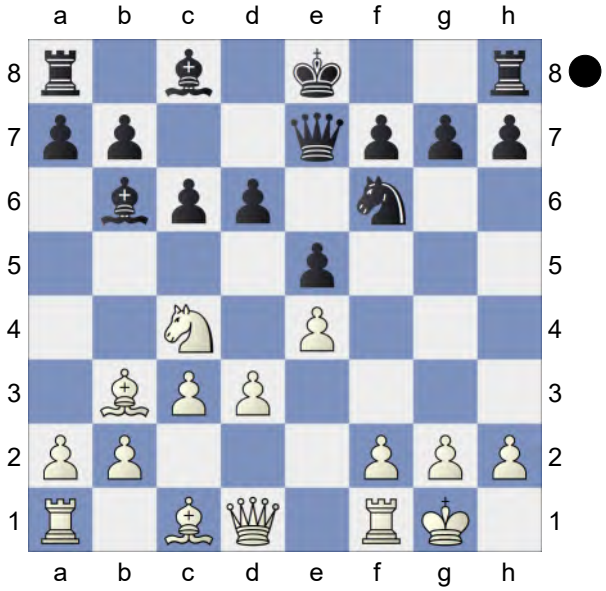
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Mikhalevski, V: 'Levon Aronian crushes the World Champion in a brilliant game, which brought the victory for Armenia against Norway.' 'Adhiban,Baskaran: 'An epic clash between a slightly weakened "slow poison" Carlsen and the improved "I am a different player now" Aronian. Mikhalevski, V: 'Adhiban,B: 'An epic clash between a slightly weakened "slow poison" Carlsen and the improved "I am a different player now" Aronian. ""
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.Na3 c6 9.Ba4 The position is equal. **9...d6 10.Bb3**

[10.Bc2 - 137/116]

10...Qe7N

[10...a5 11.Nc4 Bc7 *(11...Ba7 12.a4 0-0 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bxf6 Qxf6 15.Nxa5 d5 16.Bc2 dxe4 17.dxe4 Rd8 18.Qe1 Qg5 19.Kh1 Rd2 20.Bd1 Be6 21.b4 Rad8 22.Nxb7 Bc4 23.Nxd8 Bxf1 24.Qxf1 Rxf2 25.Qg1 Ra2 26.Rxa2* 0-1 Carlsen,M (2850)-Aronian,L (2781) 20th European Teams 2015 (3.6)*)* 12.a4 Be6 13.f4 exf4 14.Bxf4 d5 15.Bxc7 Qxc7 16.exd5 Nxd5 17.Qf3 Nf6 18.Qf4 Qxf4 19.Rxf4 0-0 20.h3 Rfd8 21.d4 c5 22.Rd1 Nd5 23.Re4 Nf6 24.Rf4 Nd5 25.Re4 ½-½ Balogh,C (2601)-Aleksandrov,A (2638) 112/(185) Dubai 2011]

11.Nc4 Diagram



11...Bg4?!N

[11...Bc7 12.f4 Be6

A) 13.Qe2 0-0-0 14.f5 Bxc4 15.Bxc4 *(15.dxc4!?∞)* 15...d5 16.Bb3 Bb6+ 17.Kh1 h5∞;

B) 13.fxe5 dxe5 14.Bg5 0-0-0∞]

12.Qe1 Bc5 13.Kh1 a5? 1.13/21

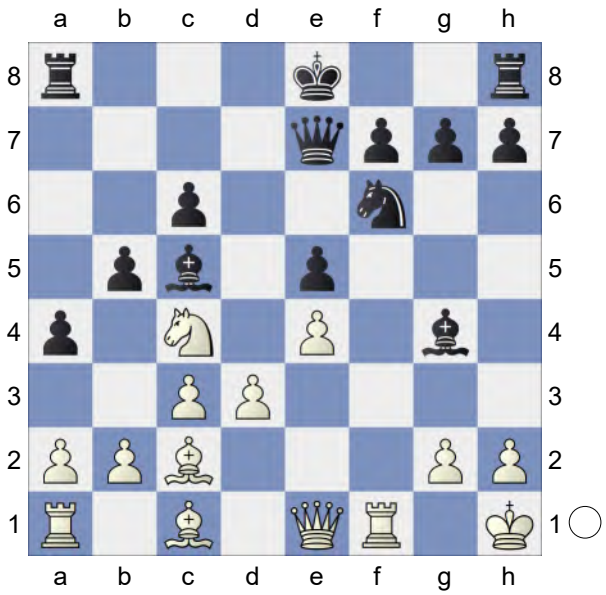
[13...b5 14.Ne3! Be6 15.f4 exf4 16.Rxf4 Bxe3! 17.Bxe3 Bxb3 18.axb3 0-0 19.Qg3 Nd7 20.Rff1±]

[13...b5± 0.57/22]

14.f4± a4 1.20/21

[⌓14...Be6 0.84/23]

15.Bc2! b5 16.fxe5! dxe5 Diagram



17.Nxe5 Qxe5 18.d4 Bxd4 19.cxd4 Qxd4 20.Be3?! -0.01/21 White is weak on the light squares

[20.Bd2! Qxb2 21.Rc1

A) 21...Qxa2 1.96/21 21...Qe5 0.83 22.h3! Be6 3.88/22 *(22...Bxh3 2.41/20* was worth a try. *23.gxh3 Nd7)* 23.Bb1+- Qb2 24.Bc3 Qa3 25.Bb4! Qb2 26.Rxc6+-;

B) ⌓21...Be6 0.76/22;

C) 21...Qe5 1.29/20 22.Bc3± Qe7 23.Bd3 Be6 24.Bb4 Qb7 25.e5 Nd5 26.Bd6±]

[Better is 20.Bd2!± 1.06/22]

20...Qxb2= 21.Qf2 Be6!

[21...0-0? 22.Bd4 Nxe4 23.Bxe4 Qxf2 24.Bxf2+- *(24.Rxf2 Rac8+-)*]

22.Bd4! Qb4 23.Bc5 Qc3 24.Rac1⇄ White has counterplay

[24.Bd4 Qb4 25.Bc5=]

24...Rd8 Wards off Bd6

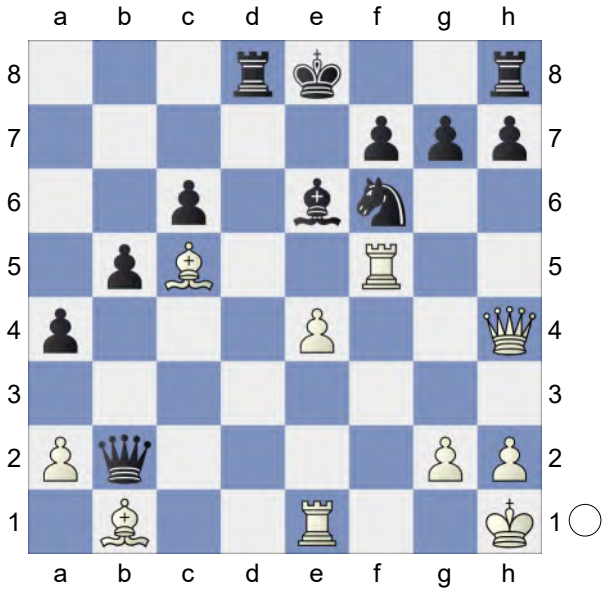
[24...Bxa2? 25.Bb1 Qe5 26.Bxa2+-]

25.Bb1

[⌓25.h3 Rd2 26.Qf4! Qxc5! *(26...Nh5!? 27.Qb8+□ Rd8=)* 27.Qxd2 0-0 28.Bxa4 Qe5∞]
[25.h3 is more complex. Rd2 26.Qf4 Nh5 27.Qb8+]

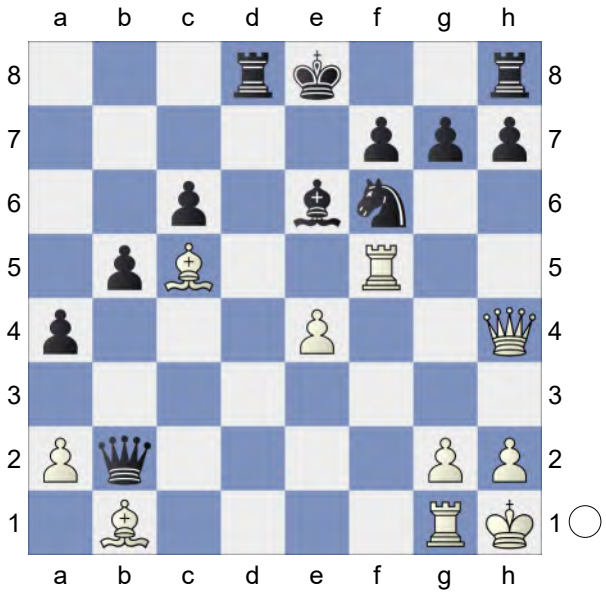
25...Qe5 26.Qh4 Bc4? 2.37/23
[26...h6! 27.Bb4 Rd4! 28.Bc3 0-0 29.Bxd4 *(29.Qf2* -1.43/26 29.Bxd4 -0.20 *c5 30.Bxd4 cxd4∓)* 29...Qxd4 30.Rxc6 Ng4 31.Qg3 Ne5 32.Rcc1! Rd8∓]
[26...h6= -0.27/25 and Black stays safe.]

27.Rf5!+- White has strong compensation. **27...Qb2 28.Rg1** 0.58/23
[28.Re1! Be6 *(28...Rd2?* 8.27/23 28...Be6 2.03 *29.e5 Nd5 30.e6 f6 31.Qg3+-)*



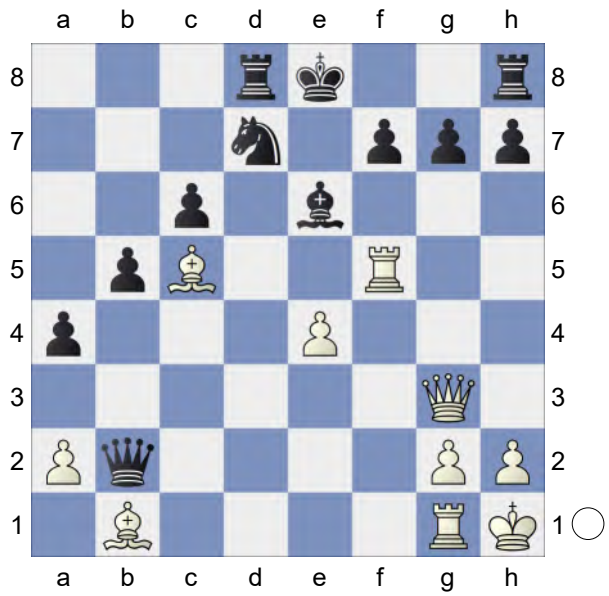
29.Qg3! Nd7 30.Bd6+-]
[28.Re1!+- 2.55/24]

28...Be6? 2.62/22 Diagram
[28...Rd2!
A) 29.e5 Rxg2! (→ ...Bd5!) 30.Re1! Nd5 0.91/27 *(30...Rxh2+=* 0.14/25 *31.Qxh2 Qc3)* 31.e6± f6∞;
B) 29.Qg5! Be6 30.Rf3 Black must now prevent a3. *(30.Qxg7?!* 0.01/23 30.e5 1.15 *Nd7! 31.e5 Nxc5 32.Qxh8+ Kd7 33.Qb8! Bxf5 34.Bxf5+ Ke7* ...Qd4 is the strong threat. *35.Qa7+ Nd7 36.Bxd7 Rxd7 37.Qc5+ Kd8∞)* 30...h6 31.Qxg7 Nd7! 32.Qxb2 Rxb2 33.Bd4! Rxb1! 34.Rxb1 Rg8 35.a3±]
[28...Bxa2 29.Bxa2 Rg8 *(29...Qxa2? 30.Qg3+-)* 30.Qf4 *(30.e5 Qxa2 31.exf6 Kd7+-)* 30...Qxa2 31.Qc7+-]
[28...Rd2!± 0.58/23]



29.Qg3! Nd7
[29...Bxf5? 8.27/26 29...Nd7 2.26 30.exf5 White wants to mate with Re1+. Nd5 31.Re1+ Kd7 32.Qd6+ Kc8 33.Qxc6+ Kb8 34.Be4+-]
[29...Bxa2? 30.Bxa2+- *(30.Qxg7 Rg8±)*]
[29...Bxf5 30.exf5 Qd2 31.Qxg7+-]

(Diagram)

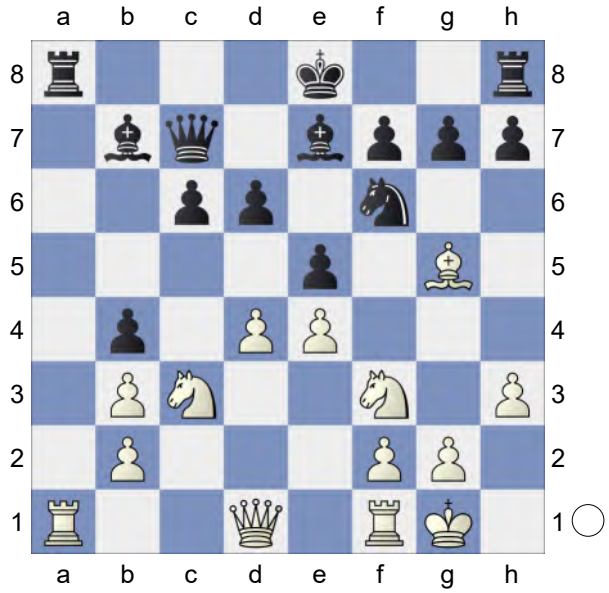


30.Bd6! Qd4 Against e5
[30...Nb6 2.36/22 30...Nf6 1.48 31.Bc7+-]
[30...g6 31.Rff1]
31.Rff1 h5 4.14/23
[⌓31...h6 2.95/23 32.Rc1 Rc8]
32.e5 Qg4 33.Qe3 h4 34.h3 Qh5 35.Be4 Qh6
[35...Nxe5 36.Qc5 f6 37.Bxe5+-]
[35...Rc8 7.37/22 35...Nxe5 4.32 36.Qa7 Qe2 37.Bxc6+-]
36.Qf3 f6 37.Bxc6 White is clearly winning. **37...Kf7 38.Bxb5 Qh5 39.Qe4**
[39.Bxa4 Qxf3 40.Rxf3 Ra8∓]
39...Nxe5 40.Be2 This pair of bishops is nice.
[Not 40.Qxe5 Qxe5 41.Bxe5 Rd5 *(41...Bxa2? loses. 42.Bxa4 Kg8 43.Bc3+-)* 42.Bxf6 Rxb5 43.Ba1+ *(43.Bxh4+ Kg8=)* 43...Kg8±]
[40.Bxe5 Rd5+-]
40...Qg5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.49 **41.Bxe5**
1-0

221 **C48**
□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2608**
■ **Bok,Benjamin** **2620**
Titled Tuesday intern op 13th Feb Late b..
[Kitty Kat]

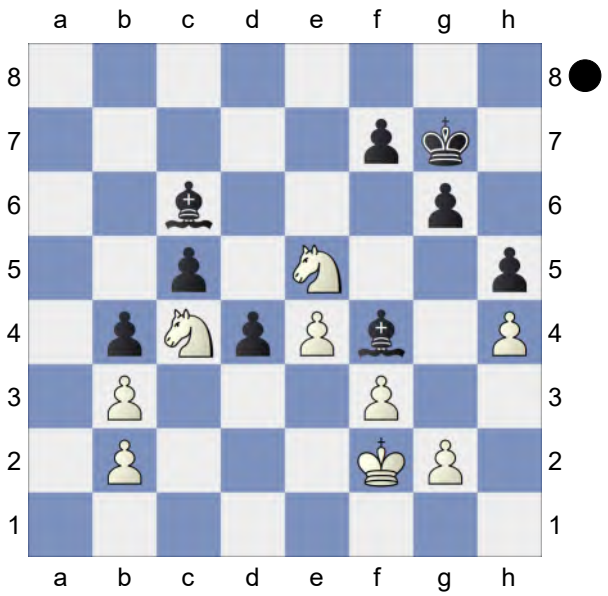
C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 Tadic,Branko: 'Etienne Bacrot: 'Second column, second game of the Chinese GM Wei Yi! He played a very interesting game to give an important 2,5-1.5 victory for his team against Israel.'' Tadic,Branko: 'Second column, second game of the Chinese GM Wei Yi! He played a very interesting game to give an important 2,5-1.5 victory for his team against Israel.' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nd4 5.Ba4 c6 6.d3**
[6.Nxe5 d5 7.d3 Bd6 8.f4 Bc5 9.exd5 0-0 10.dxc6 bxc6 11.h3 Re8 12.Qd2 Nd7 13.Kd1 Nxe5 14.fxe5 Rxe5 15.Re1 Rxe1+ 16.Qxe1 Bf5 17.Qe5 Qf8 18.Bxc6 Nxc6 19.Qxf5 Nd4 20.Qf4 Re8 1-0 Wei,Y (2706)-Rodshtein,M (2654) WchT 10th Tsaghkadzor 2015 (6.4) 21.Bd2]
6...a5N
[6...b5!? 7.Bb3□ Nxb3 8.axb3 Qc7=]
[6...Bb4 7.Bd2 b5 8.Bb3 Nxb3 9.axb3 Qe7 10.0-0 0-0 11.h3 Re8 12.Re1 a5 13.Ne2 Bxd2 14.Qxd2 b4 15.Ng3 d6 16.d4 c5 17.c3 Qb7 18.Nh4 bxc3 19.bxc3 exd4 20.cxd4 cxd4 21.Qxd4 1-0 Yudasin,L (2610)-Bellini,F (2415) Reggio Emilia 9798 40th 1997 (1) Qxb3 22.Qxd6 Qe6 23.Qd2 Bb7 24.e5 Qd5 25.Qb2 Nd7 26.Red1 Qc6 27.Rd6 Qc7 28.Rc1 Nc5 29.Nhf5 Ra6 30.e6 f6 31.Rd7 1-0 Alekhine,A (2610)-Donnelly,P (2415) Portoroz/Ljubljana 19/251 1975

(1)]
[6...Bc5 7.Bb3 0-0 8.0-0 d5 9.h3 a5 10.exd5 b5 11.a3 Nxb3 12.cxb3 Nxd5 13.Nxe5 Be6 14.Ne4 Bb6 15.Ng5 Qd6 3 Chapter-Games Chapter 2 Game]
7.a3!? -0.54/19 Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[7.Nxe5= 0.02/19 Bc5 8.Be3]
7...b5 -0.15/20
[7...Bc5!∓ -0.54/19]
8.Bb3!= Nxb3 The position is equal.
[8...d5 seems wilder. 9.exd5 Bg4 10.dxc6 Qc8]
9.cxb3 d6 10.d4 Qc7 11.h3 Be7 12.Bg5N
[Vorgänger: 12.0-0 0-0 13.Bg5 Ba6 0.42/19 *(13...h6= -0.19/18 14.Bh4 Be6)* 14.b4 axb4 15.axb4 Bb7 16.Rc1 Qb8 17.Re1 Re8 18.Qd2 0-1 Kuba,J (2247)-Malinovsky,K (2353) CZE-chT 0809 2008 (3.7)]
12...Bb7 0.40/18
[12...exd4= -0.18/18 13.Nxd4 0-0]
13.0-0 0.00/20
[13.Qc2± 0.40/18]
13...b4 14.axb4 axb4



Strongly threatening ...Ra8xa1.
15.Rxa8+ Bxa8 16.dxe5 -0.09/21
[16.Na4!± 0.31/21]
16...dxe5= 17.Na4 -0.46/19
[17.Bxf6= 0.08/20 Bxf6 18.Na4]
17...0-0 0.45/23
[17...Nxe4∓ -0.46/19 18.Bxe7 Kxe7]
18.Qc2 c5 19.Bxf6 Bxf6 20.Nd2 -0.56/20
[20.Nxc5? Rc8 21.Ra1 Be7 *(21...Qxc5? 22.Qxc5 Re8 23.Qxb4+-)* 22.Nxe5 Qxc5-+ *(22...Bxc5? 23.Nf3-+; 22...Qxe5 23.Nd7∓* Discovered Attack *)*]
[Better is 20.Qxc5= 0.06/21 Qxc5 21.Nxc5]
20...Be7 21.Nc4 Rb8 Wards off Na4-b6
22.Rd1 g6 23.Ne3 Rd8 24.Rxd8+ Qxd8 25.f3 -1.04/22
[25.Qc4!= -0.13/22]
25...Qd4∓ 26.Qf2 Kg7 -0.30/23
[26...Bg5∓ -1.06/21 27.Nc4 Qd1+ 28.Qf1 Qxb3 29.Nxc5 Qa2]
27.Nb6= Bc6 28.Nbc4 Bg5 29.h4 -0.79/23
[29.Ng4!∓ -0.33/22 was preferable.]
29...Bh6 -0.01/23
[29...Bf4∓ -0.79/23]
30.Ng4! Bf4 31.Qxd4 exd4 32.Kf2 -0.89/23 Prevents Bf4-g3+.
[32.Nf2!= -0.22/25 keeps the balance.]
32...h5 -0.01/24
[Black should play 32...f5∓ -0.89/23 33.exf5 gxf5]
33.Nge5

(Diagram)



Bd7 7.24/23 **34.Nxd7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.24 (precise) /Black=0.57
1-0

222	**C65**
☐ **Rapport,Richard**	**2764**
■ **Radjabov,Teimour**	**2753**
_2471	2022

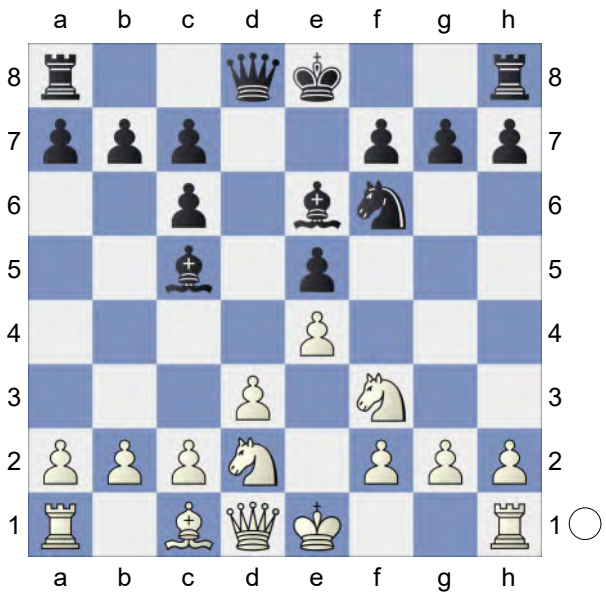
[TA]

Candidates Tournament 2022 – Madrid Tournament Review The Candidates Tournament for the 2023 World Championship took place June 16-July 5 in Madrid. The tournament itself had "starting controversies"' as Sergey Karjakin was disqualified by FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary commission (due to his political pro-military invasion statements). Also, Magnus Carlsen announced that he would (most likely) not defend his title. Karjakin was replaced by Ding Liren (who, on the other hand, needed a certain number of rated games and he managed "last minute" to reach the quota). Tournament itself was interesting and we saw many fighting games. My choice of the games is personal, as it is not easy to make everyone happy. Still, I do hope reader to like my selection. Majority of the games are by Ian Nepomniachtchi (which is normal as he won the event). Being for three years (2016-2019) the coach of young Alireza Firouzja, I was personally very interested for Alireza's performance. Honestly, I was thinking that his talent will bridge the years of experience and offer him good chances to win and qualify for the World Championship match in "one go". However, the combination of wrong decisions resulted in disappointment, as two games Alireza lost to Ian (both included in this survey) illustrate it well. Hikaru Nakamura made powerful return to classical chess, first qualifying for the Candidates and then performing well in Madrid. The winner Ian Nepomniachtchi though winning with large (1 1/2 points) margin(!!) did need to survive some scary moments. Surviving difficult moments versus Caruana & Nakamura (both games in the early stage of the tournament!) played important role in Nepo's triumph. C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]

6...Be6 Diagram

(Diagram)



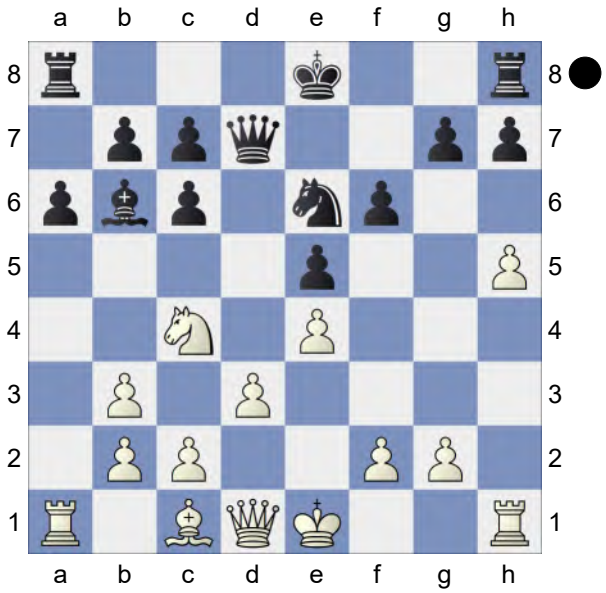
This is a popular variation with many games played at top level. Rapport himself had an interesting game vs Caruana a couple of days earlier. White faces dilemma whether to "show his hand" and castle, or to keep his king in the centre (and options). Black also sometimes castles kingside (like in this game), or queenside (like Caruana did).

7.0-0

[Mentioned game vs Caruana went 7.h3 Nd7

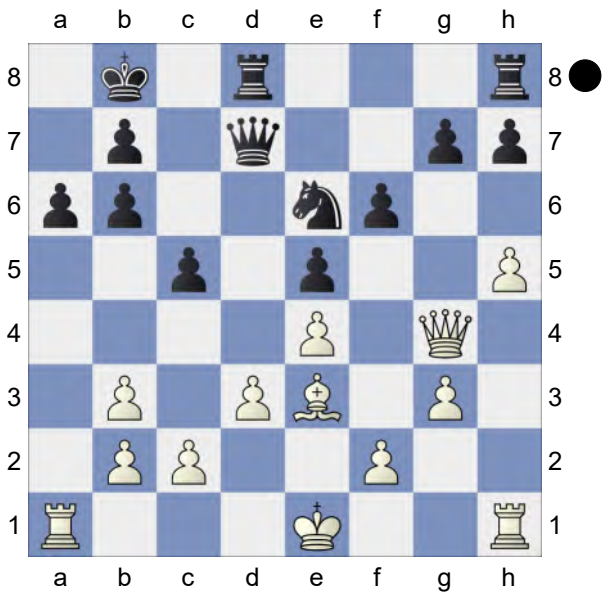
A) Different White's set-up is 8.Nf1 -0.44/21 8.Nb3 0.00 f6 9.g4 -0.91/21 *(9.a3= -0.27/20)* 9...Qe7∓ 10.Ng3 0-0-0 11.Qe2 Kb8∞ with unclear game, Nakamura, Hikaru 2736 - Carlsen,Magnus 2863, chess24.com (Internet-m7/7-rapid) 2020;

B) 8.Nb3! Bb6 White takes Black's bishop pair. 9.Ng5! Bxb3 *(9...Qe7* 0.59/23 9...Bxb3 0.00 is less precise, because after *10.Nxe6 Qxe6 11.Qg4* White has a long term pressure: *Qg6 12.Bd2 0-0-0 13.Bc3 f6 14.a4±* Sevian,Samuel 2556 - Radjabov,Teimour 2738, Baku (m/4-rapid) 2015*)* 10.axb3 Now White will have to lose some time moving his knight f6 11.Nf3 Black's knight here belongs to the e6-square. Nc5 12.Nd2 Ne6 13.Nc4 Qd7 14.h4 a6 0.24/22 *(14...Bc5!* -0.17/20 *)* 15.h5 -0.33/21 Diagram *(15.Nxb6=* 0.24/22 *cxb6 16.Qh5+ g6 17.Qf3)*



A critical position. Caruana plays a logical move though probably not totally accurate. 15...0-0-0 0.15/19 *(15...Bd4=* looks about equal.*; 15...Bd4∓* -0.33/21 *)* 16.Nxb6+!= cxb6 17.Be3 c5 18.Qg4 Kb8 19.g3 Diagram

(Diagram)



Black has a solid position. However, White prepares the f4-pawn push and has initiative. g6 0.44/24 *(* It can be that Caruana initially underestimated ending after *19...Nd4 20.Qxd7 Rxd7 21.Bxd4* whatever is the way Black is going to recapture, White will go for the f4-pawn push and have some initiative.*;* *19...b5=* 0.07/21 feels stronger.*)* 20.0-0-0± Qf7 21.f4± ↑ White has initiative here, but game ended in a draw - Rapport,Richard 2764 - Caruana, Fabiano 2783, Madrid (ct) 2022]

[7.Nxe5? Qd4 8.Rf1 Qxe5-+]

7...Bd6 White opts for a well-known plan to place his knight on the a5-square.

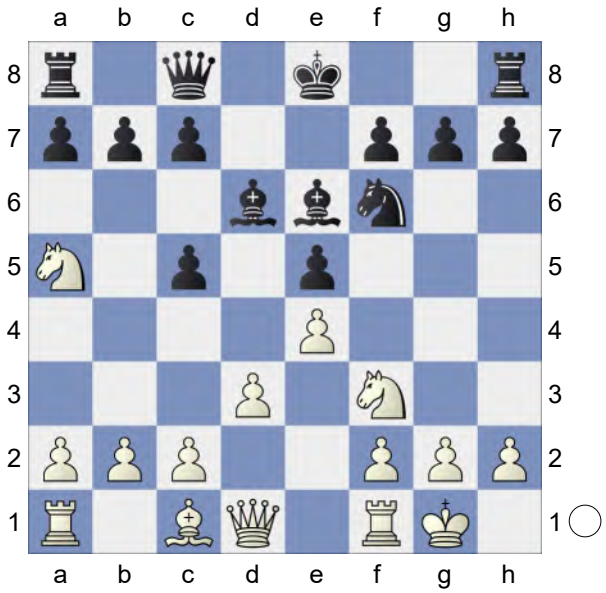
8.Nb3 White has an edge. **8...c5** 0.43/21

[Black could have opted to stop the white knight from getting to the a5-square and play 8...b6 (likely) most logical for White is to go for the pawn structure change. 9.d4 Nd7! 10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.Qh5= The position looks about equal though White ended victorious in (high level internet game) Vachier Lagrave, Maxime 2784 - So,Wesley 2770, chess24.com (Internet-rapid) 2021]

[8...b6= -0.02/21]

[8...a5 9.Qe1 a4 10.Na5 Qb8 *(10...Qc8 11.Ng5 Bc5 12.Nxe6 Qxe6 13.Nxb7 Bb6 14.Be3 Nd7 15.b4 axb3 16.axb3 Rxa1 17.Qxa1 0-0 18.Qc3 Bxe3 19.fxe3 Qh6 20.Qd2 Ra8 21.Na5 c5 22.Nc4 Qe6 23.Qc3 h6 24.Ra1 Rxa1+ 25.Qxa1* ½-½ Caruana,F (2764)-Le,Q (2728) Chessable Masters Div 1 Win rapid 2023 (1.1)*)* 11.b4 Bg4 12.Nh4 0-0 13.Nc4 Be6 14.Nxd6 cxd6 15.f4 exf4 16.Bxf4 Re8 17.a3 Nh5 18.Bd2 d5 19.Qe2 Nf6 20.Rxf6 gxf6 21.Rf1 dxe4 22.Bc3 Qd6 23.Bxf6 1-0 Dominguez Perez,L (2763)-Aronian,L (2765) St. Louis Rapid & Blitz GCT 2019 (15.5)]

9.Na5!± Qc8 Diagram



10.b3N Tipical move in this position, though I am not sure that is White's most precise option.

[10.Ng5 Going immediately for the black light-squared bishop looks to be promising White a long term advantage. b6 *(10...Bd7?* 1.16/21

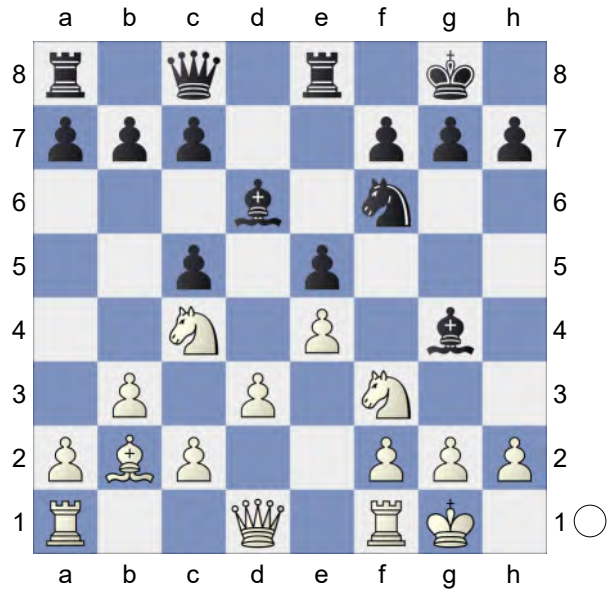
10...b6 0.41 *11.f4→; 10...Bg4?! 11.f3 Bh5! 12.Qe1→* and the f4-pawn push will come.*)* 11.Nxe6 Qxe6 12.Nc4± White will push f4 at a suitable moment and have better chances. 0-0 13.b3 Nd7 14.a4 Nb8 15.Bb2 Nc6 16.Ne3 Rad8 17.g3 Nd4 18.Nc4 Qh3 19.Bxd4 cxd4 20.Qf3 Rfe8 21.Qe2 Re6 22.f3 a6 23.Qd2 Rg6 24.Rf2 b5 25.axb5 axb5 26.Nxd6 Rgxd6 27.f4 ½-½ Iskandarov,M (2601)-Parligras,M (2560) Geoagiu Bai Hunedoara op 2022 (7)]

10...0-0 0.71/21

[Perhaps better decision was 10...b6 and after 11.Nc4! Bxc4 12.bxc4 Qe6 - if White has something, it is very little.]

[10...b6!= 0.04/23 11.Nc4 Bxc4 12.bxc4 Qe6]

11.Bb2± Bg4 12.Nc4 Re8 Diagram



White has all the reasons to be happy with the outcome of the opening. Black has no counterplay while White has kingside initiative. White has different ways to develop kingside initiative. Pushing the g-pawn, planting knight to f5, keeping f4-pawn push option... Position looks promising for White. **13.a4** Rapport secures his c4-knight position and wants to move his queen to e3-square unpinning his f3-knight.

[Other option was 13.h3 Bh5 14.Ne3]

[13.Bxe5? Bxe5 *(13...Bxf3? 14.Qxf3 Bxe5 15.Nxe5-+)* 14.Ncxe5 Rxe5-+]

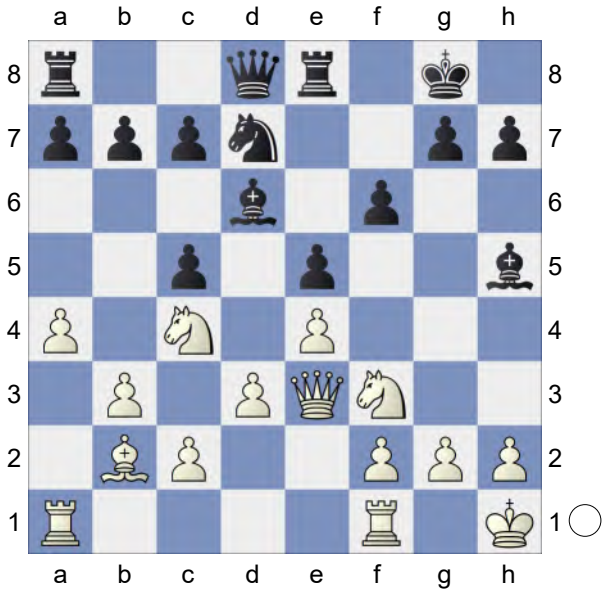
13...Bh5 14.Qe2

[The alternative was 14.h3 preparing to move the king, then Rg1 and the g4-pawn push.]

[14.Bxe5? Bxe5 15.Ncxe5 Rxe5-+]

14...Nd7 15.Qe3 Qd8 Against Nh4

16.Kh1 f6 Diagram



White has good situation here, as Black has no counterplay. White has various attacking plans. An attacking player like Richard Rapport had all reasons to be happy here. Maybe Richard got too optimistic and (therefore soon) opted for a reckless sacrifice. **17.Rg1** 0.32/22

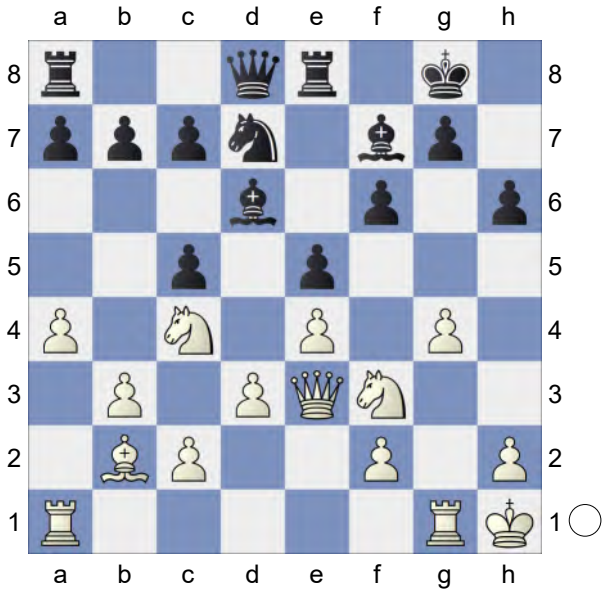
[Promising alternative was to go for the f-pawn push. 17.Nh4 Bf7 18.Nf5 Nf8 19.g3 Ne6 1.18/23 *(19...Qd7* 0.81/20 *)* 20.f4→]

[⌓17.Nh4 0.70/23]

17...Bf7± 18.g4 Black has to prevent

White's immediate g5-push. **18...h6** 0.80/22

[18...Nf8= 0.20/21]



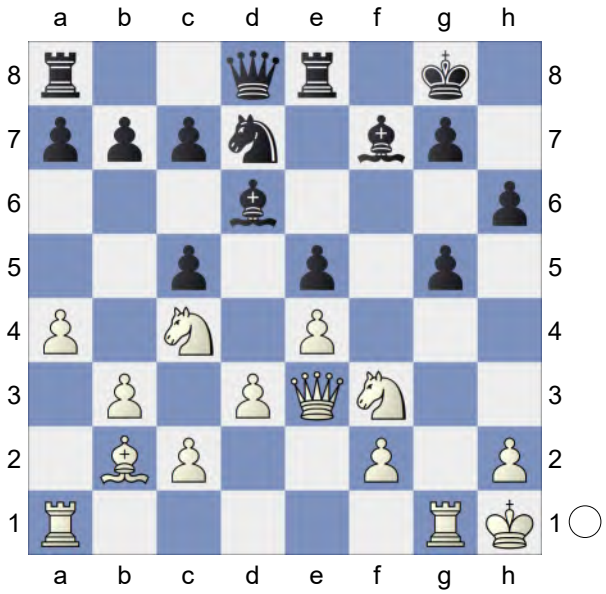
White has promising attack and has no pressure/reason to sacrifice anything here. Most likely, the explanation is Rapport simply being too optimistic about his attack. **19.g5!?** -0.01/22 How to capture on g5? **19...fxg5?** 0.98/23

[Precise was 19...hxg5! with approximately equal position after 20.h4 Bxc4 21.bxc4 Kf7 22.hxg5 Rh8+ 23.Kg2 Nf8=]

[19...hxg5= -0.01/22 remains equal. 20.Nxd6 cxd6]

Diagram

(Diagram)



20.Nxg5? -2.07/24 We love Richard Rapport for such decisions but objectively this reckless sacrifice is a mistake here. **20...hxg5?** -0.01/22

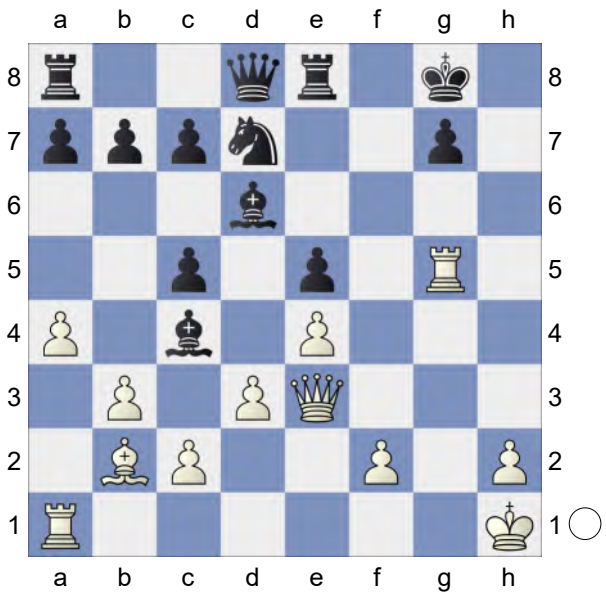
[A precise way to refute White's sacrifice was (relatively simple) 20...Bxc4! 21.bxc4 hxg5 22.Rxg5 Be7-+ Black is a sound piece up and White has no attack. 23.Rh5 -2.06/24 *(23.Rxg7+?? -6.69/5* 23.Rg2 -2.01 does not work as White "runs out of pieces". *Kxg7 24.Rg1+ Kf7; 23.Rg2∓* -1.37/22 *)* 23...Bf6!-+ 24.Rg1 Qe7-+]

[Better is 20...Bxc4!-+ -2.07/24 21.bxc4 hxg5 22.Rxg5 Be7]

21.Rxg5= Now White has some attack though not sufficient to fully compensate for the sacrificed piece. **21...Qf6**

[21...Bxc4 now does not work equally well as White has Diagram

(Diagram)



22.Rag1! with approximately equal material imbalanced position after

A) 22...Re7? 3.47/26 22...Bf7 -0.01 23.Qg3 Qf8 24.bxc4 Qf6 3.06/26 *(⌓24...Rd8 1.69/22 25.Qh3 Qf6)* 25.f4+-;

B) 22...Bf7! 23.Rxg7+ Kf8 24.Qh6 White wants to mate with Rxf7+!. Qf6! 25.R7g6+ Ke7 26.Rxf6 Nxf6 27.Rg7 Rg8!∞]

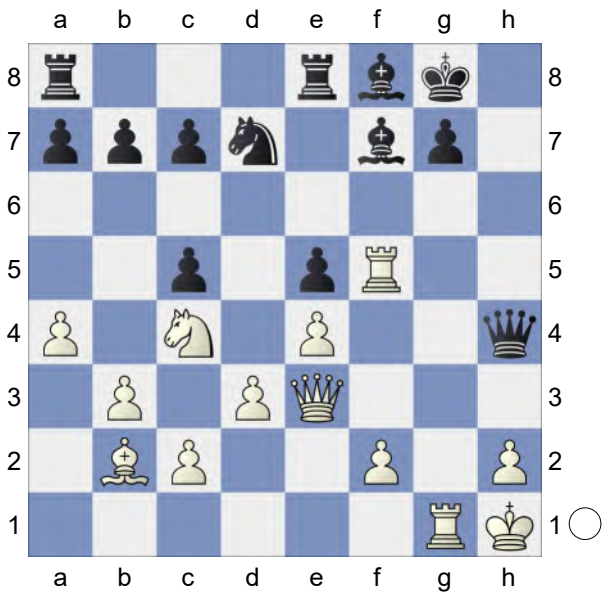
22.Rag1 Bf8 23.Rf5 -1.32/25

[23.f4 -0.76/26 23.Qh3 -0.01 does not achieve desired result after Bxc4! 24.bxc4 exf4 25.Qc1! Re5! 26.Bxe5 Nxe5 27.Rf5 Qe6 and ...g6 would now be decisive 28.Qxf4 Re8∓]

[23.Qh3= -0.01/22]

23...Qh4!∓ Diagram

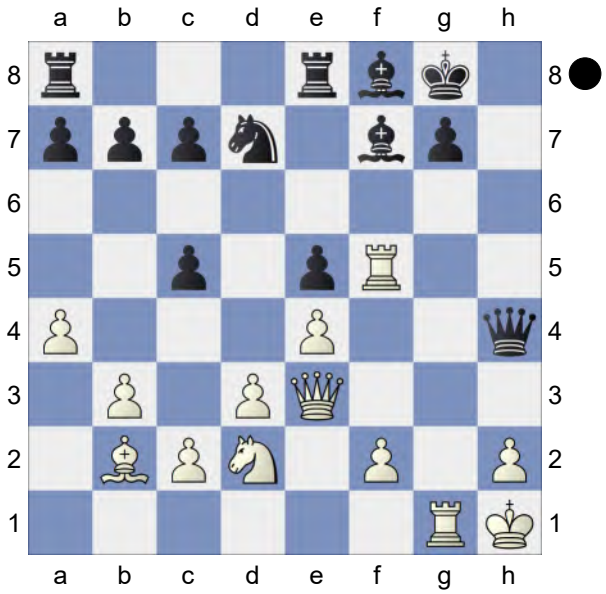
(Diagram)



24.Nd2 -2.26/22

[White's best survival chance was 24.Nxe5 Nxe5 25.Bxe5 Rxe5 26.Rxe5 Bd6 27.Qg5 Qh7 28.f4 Bxe5 29.Qxe5 Black is better, but White has some survival chances.]

[24.Nxe5∓ -1.02/26 Rxe5 *(24...Nxe5 25.Bxe5 Re6 26.f4∓)* 25.Bxe5 Nxe5 26.Rxe5]



Radjabov calculates well and executes with a steady hand. **24...Re6!-+ 25.f4?** -3.77/23

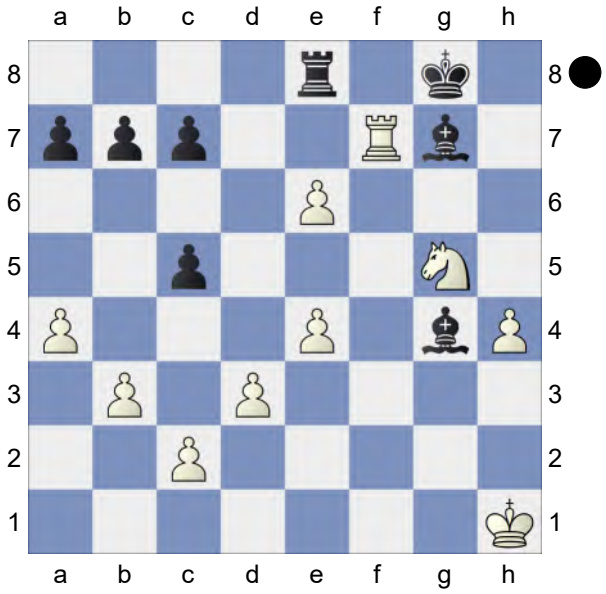
[25.Nf3 -2.09/22 Qh6 26.Qxh6 Rxh6 27.Nxe5 Nxe5 28.Bxe5]

25...Rg6 26.Nf3 Qh3 Logical human move.

[My Stockfish prefers 26...Rxg1+ 27.Qxg1 Qh6 28.fxe5 Bg6 29.Rg5 Bh5 30.Rg3 Bxf3+ 31.Rxf3 Black must now prevent Qg4. Re8-+]

27.fxe5 Rxg1+ 28.Qxg1 Bh5 29.Ng5 Qg4 White's threats are not really dangerous. Radjabov easily brings it home. **30.Qe3?** -6.18/22

[Or 30.e6 Nf6 31.Bxf6 gxf6 32.Qxg4 Bxg4 33.Rxf6 Re8-+ White loses the e6-pawn and later the game. 34.h4 Bg7 35.Rf7

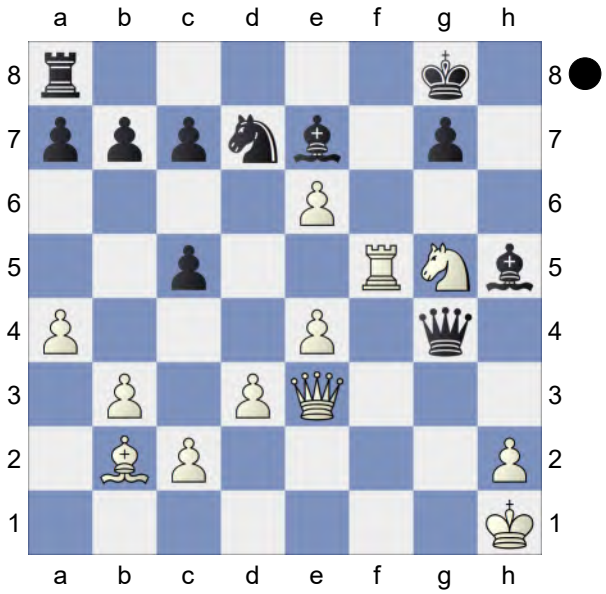


Be5!]

[30.e6 -3.57/22 Qxg1+ 31.Kxg1]

30...Be7 Black is clearly winning. **31.e6** Diagram

(Diagram)



31...Rf8! 32.Nf7

[32.exd7 loses to Rxf5 33.exf5 Bxg5-+]

32...Bxf7 33.exd7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.76/Black=0.23 (precise)

33...Be6

0-1

223	**C67**
☐ **Van Foreest,Jorden**	**2677**
■ **Georgiev,Kiril**	**2537**
EU-ch Blitz Skopje (4)	09.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]	

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 d5 9.d4 0-0** White is slightly better. **10.Nc3 Bf6N**

[10...Bb4 11.a3 Bxc3 12.bxc3 Nd6 13.Bf4 Ne7 14.h3 Ng6 15.Bh2 Bf5 16.Bd3 Bxd3 17.cxd3 Nf5 18.Ne5 Nxe5 19.Rxe5 Ne7 20.Qb3 f6 21.Re2 b6 22.Rae1 Ng6 23.c4 dxc4 24.Qxc4+ Kh8 25.Bxc7 1-0 Wang,Y (2658)-Ma,Q (2602) CHN-ch Blitz 2024 (8)]

[10...Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4
A) 12.Ne2 Bf5 *(12...Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.c3 Re8 15.g3 Bg5 16.Bg2 Bxc1 17.Rxc1 Qd6 18.Qd2 Bxe2 19.Rxe2 Re7 20.Rxe7 Nxe7 21.Re1 c6 22.Qg5 Ng6 23.h4 h6 24.Qg4 Nf8 25.Bh3 Nh7 26.Re5 Nf6 27.Qf4* ½-½ Deac,B (2559)-Areshchenko,A (2673) 131/158 Romania 2016*)* 13.c3 Qd7 14.g3 Bd8 15.Nf4 Ne7 16.Nd3 b6 17.Ne5 Qc8 18.b3 f6 19.Nd3 Qd7 20.Ba3 Re8 21.Nf4 c6 22.Qe2 Bc7 23.Qxe7 Rxe7 24.Rxe7 Qc8 25.Nh5 Bg6 26.Rxg7+ Kh8 0-1 Grandelius,N-Adams,M 57 Batumi 2019;
B) 12.Bb5 Ne7 13.Bd3 Bf6 14.Qh5 g6 15.Qf3 Bg7 16.Bg5 f6 17.Bd2 c6 18.Ne2 Nf5 19.g3 Nh6 20.c4 Bg4 21.Qg2 dxc4 22.Bxc4+ Kh8 23.d5 Nf7 24.Nf4 Ne5 25.Be2 1-0 Sudgen,J (2754)-Osnos, V (2754) W-Cup2 final corr 1977 (8)]

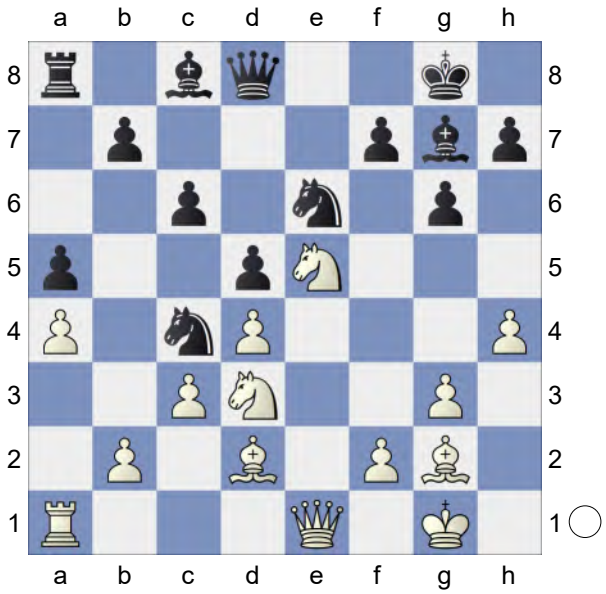
11.Ne2 Re8 12.c3 g6 13.g3 0.32/17
[13.h3± 0.71/18]

13...Nce7 0.80/18
[13...h5± 0.32/17 should be considered.]

14.a4 a5 15.Bg2 0.18/21
[15.g4± 0.72/18]

15...c6 16.Nf4 Ng7 17.Nd3 Nef5 18.Bf4 Rxe1+ 19.Qxe1 Ne6 20.Bd2 Nd6 21.Nfe5 Bg7 22.h4 Nc4? 1.86/20
[22...f6= -0.05/18 23.Nf3 Bf8]

(Diagram)



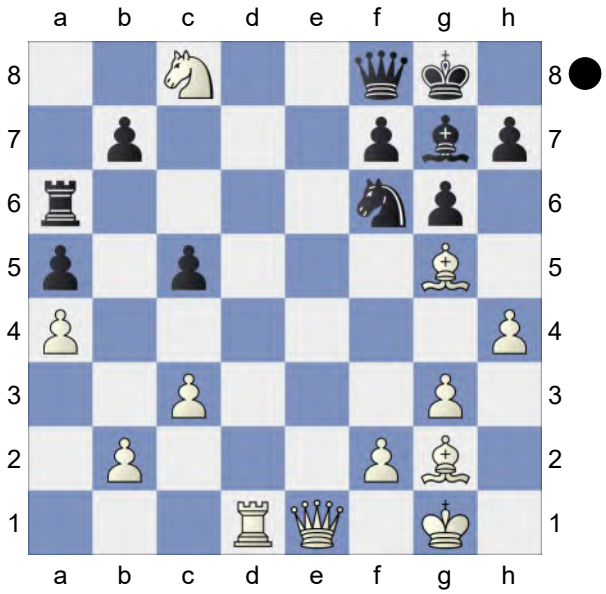
Black cannot hold the game after this.

23.Nxc4+- dxc4 24.Ne5 c5 2.77/19
[24...Bxe5± 1.56/20 might work better. 25.Qxe5 h5]

25.d5
[Not 25.Nxc4 cxd4 26.cxd4 Qc7±]

25...Nc7 26.Nxc4 Nxd5 27.Bg5 Nf6 28.Rd1 Qf8 Black is weak on the dark squares **29.Nb6 Ra6** 5.03/21
[29...Rb8 3.04/21 30.Bf4 Trapped Piece Bg4]

30.Nxc8

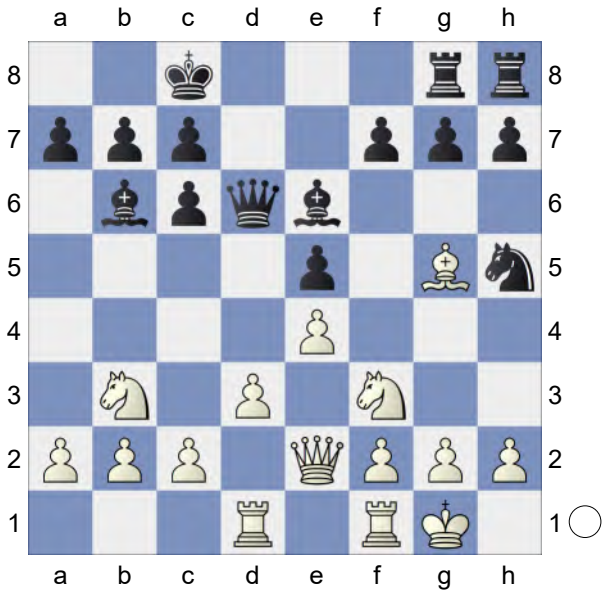


Deflection. White is clearly winning.

30...Qxc8 31.Qe7 Rd1-d8+ would now be deadly. **31...Bf8 32.Rd8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) / Black=0.53
1-0

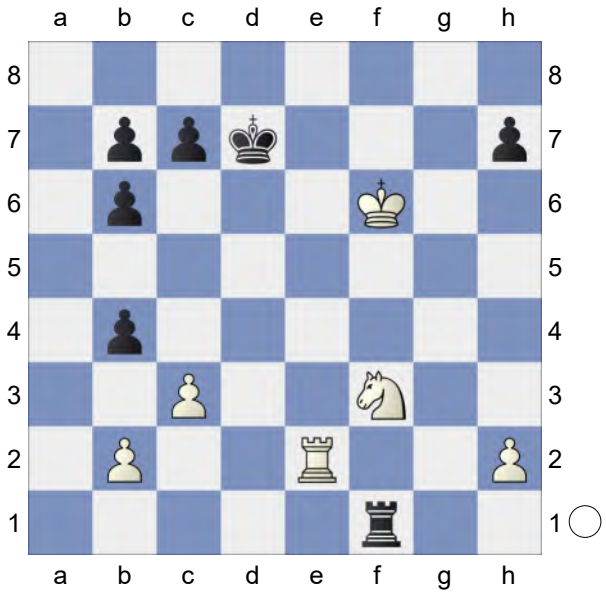
224 **C65**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2792**
■ **Navara,David** **2697**
7th Gashimov Mem Blitz (11.4) 23.12.21
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Bg5**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Qd6 7.Nbd2 Be6
[7...Nd7 8.Nc4 Qe6 9.0-0 0-0 10.a4 Nb6 11.Be3 Nxc4 12.Bxc5 Nd6 13.a5 f6 14.d4 Rd8 15.Re1 Nb5 16.d5 Qf7 17.c4 Nd6 18.Qb3 cxd5 19.cxd5 c6 20.Bxa7 cxd5 21.Bb6 Re8 22.exd5 1-0 Kavakul,M (2741)-Eyabrev (2616) Yerevan (zt) 33/700 1982]
8.0-0N The position is equal.
[8.Nc4 Bxc4 9.Bxf6 Qxf6 10.dxc4 Qe6 11.0-0 Qxc4 12.Nxe5 Qe6 13.Qh5 Bb6 14.Nf3 0-0 15.a4 a5 16.e5 h6 17.b3 Rad8 18.Rae1 Rd5 19.Nh4 Re8 20.Nf3 Red8 21.g3 Bc5 22.Kg2 Be7 1-0 Hossain,E (2514)-Eljanov,P (2681) FIDE World Cup 2007 (1.2) 23.Re3 Rc5 24.Re2 Rc3 25.h3 c5 26.Rfe1 c4 27.bxc4 b6 28.Re4 c5 29.Nh4 Rxc2 30.Nf5 Bf8 31.Ne3 Ra2 32.Nd5 Rxa4 33.Nf4 Qe8 34.e6 fxe6 35.Qg4 Rd4 36.Nxe6 Rxe4 37.Rxe4 Qa8 1-0 Izotov,V (2514)-Ornolfsson,M (2681) op Forli 1988 (1.2)]
[8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.0-0 0-0-0 10.Kh1 Rhg8 11.Qe2 Rg7 12.Nc4 Qd7 13.Ne3 Rdg8 14.Nh4 Rg5 15.c3 a6 16.b4 Ba7 17.Rad1 Bxe3 18.Qxe3 Kb8 19.Rd2 f5 20.exf5 Bxf5 21.d4 e4 22.Nxf5 Qxf5 1-0 So,W (2752)-Lazavik,D (2566) CCT Finals Advancement 2023 (2.1)]
[8.Qe2 Nd7 9.c3 f6 10.Be3 Bxe3 11.Qxe3 c5 12.0-0 0-0 13.Rfd1 Bg4 14.h3 Bh5 15.Re1 a5 16.Nh4 Rac8 17.a3 Rfe8 18.Nf1 Rcd8 19.Rad1 Kh8 20.Rd2 a4 21.Kh1 Qf8 22.g3 Nb8 0-1 Inarkiev,E (2669)-Georgiev,K (2660) RUS-chT 14th 2007 (6)]
8...0-0-0 0.31/21
[8...Nd7= -0.30/21]
9.Qe2 Rdg8 0.57/20
[9...Rhg8= 0.09/19]
10.Rad1 Nh5 0.86/21
[10...h6= 0.22/22 11.Be3 Bxe3 12.Qxe3 Kb8]
11.Nb3± Bb6 1.20/22
[⌓11...Bxb3 0.76/22 12.axb3 Kb8]



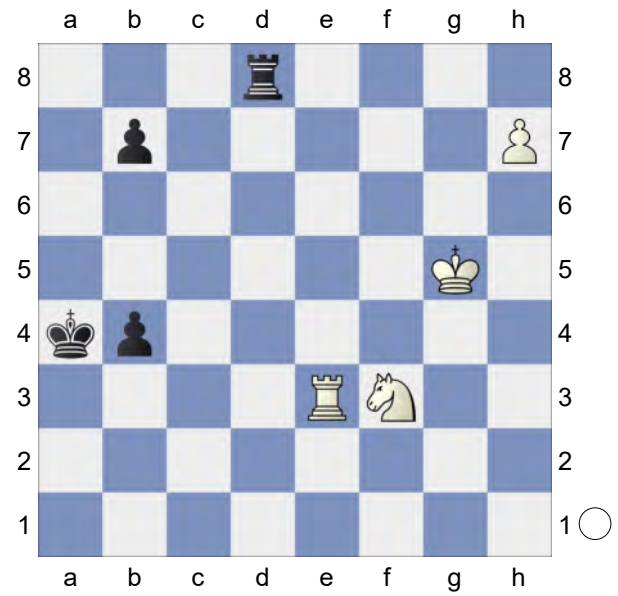
12.d4! Bxb3 2.11/23
[12...h6± 1.22/23 13.Be3 *(13.dxe5 Qb4∓)* 13...exd4]

13.dxe5+-
[13.axb3 exd4 14.Nxd4 Qg6 15.Qg4+ Kb8±]
13...Qe6 14.axb3
[14.cxb3 f6±]
14...f6 15.Be3
[15.exf6 gxf6 16.Be3 Qh3=]
15...Qg4 2.84/20
[⌓15...fxe5 1.81/21 16.g3 Kb8]
16.Rfe1 Qxe4 4.12/22
[16...Re8 2.65/20 17.exf6 gxf6]
17.Bxb6? 0.94/19
[17.Nd2+- 4.12/22 and the rest is easy. Qg6 18.Bxb6 axb6 19.Ra1]
17...Qxe2± 18.Rxe2 axb6 4.29/22
[18...cxb6± 1.01/22 is more resistant. 19.exf6 Nxf6]
19.g3 1.97/19
[⌓19.Re4 4.29/22]
19...fxe5 3.25/26
[⌓19...Rd8 1.97/19 20.Ra1 b5]
20.Nxe5+- Rd8 4.82/22
[⌓20...Nf6 3.21/25 21.Ra1 Kb8]
21.Ra1 Kb8 Dodges Ra8+ **22.b4 Rd4** 7.46/24
[⌓22...c5 4.39/27 23.bxc5 bxc5]
23.Kg2 Rhd8 7.30/24
[⌓23...c5 4.67/23 24.bxc5 bxc5]
24.c3? 1.92/21
[24.Re3 7.30/24 Intending Rea3 and mate. Rd1 25.Ra2]
24...Rd1? 3.85/26
[24...R4d5 1.92/21 25.Nf7 Rd2]
25.Rxd1 Rxd1 Endgame KRN-KRN
26.Nf3 2.11/23
[⌓26.Ng4 3.56/23]
26...Kc8 27.Nd4 Kd7 3.96/23
[27...c5 2.13/23 28.bxc5 bxc5]
28.f4 g6 29.Nf3 Ng7? 4.19/23
[29...Rd5 2.60/24 30.Kh3 b5]
30.g4? 1.57/23
[30.Ng5+- 4.19/23]
30...Ne6± 31.Kg3 c5 2.76/24
[31...Rd5± 1.58/21 32.Re3 b5]
32.f5+- gxf5 33.gxf5 Ng7 34.Kf4 1.25/23
[34.Kg4+- 3.09/22 and White stays clearly on top.]
34...cxb4± 35.f6 1.12/23
[White must play 35.cxb4+- 2.22/23 Rf1 36.Re3]
35...Nh5+ 3.67/26
[35...Ne6+± 1.12/23 is a better defense. 36.Kg3 bxc3 37.bxc3 Rd3]
36.Kg5+- Nxf6 and ...bxc3! should not be overlooked **37.Kxf6** KRN-KR
37...Rf1

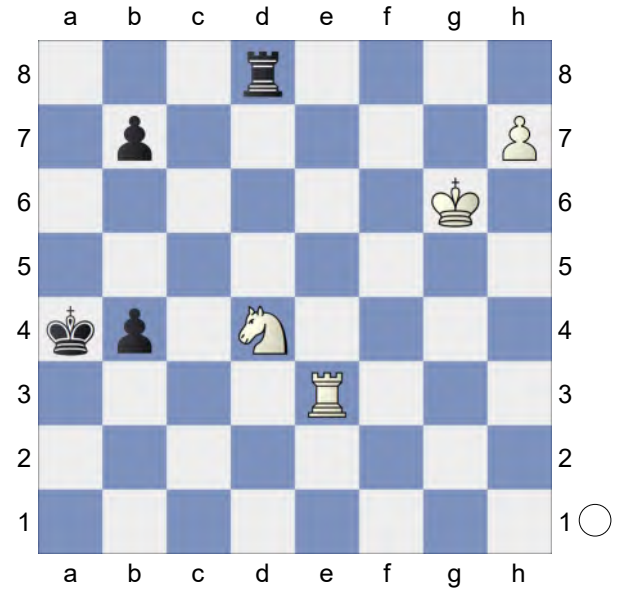


38.Re3 bxc3 39.bxc3
[Less strong is 39.Rxc3 b5 40.Kg7 c5+-]
39...c5 40.Kg7 h5 41.h4 b5 42.Kg6 Kc6 43.Kxh5 b4 44.cxb4 cxb4 45.Kg6 Rd1 46.h5 Rd6+ 47.Kg5 Black must now prevent Rd3!. **47...Kb5 48.h6 Ka4 49.h7 Rd8**

(Diagram)



50.Nd4! Promotion **50...Rd5+**
[50...b3 51.Rxb3]
51.Kg6 Rd8

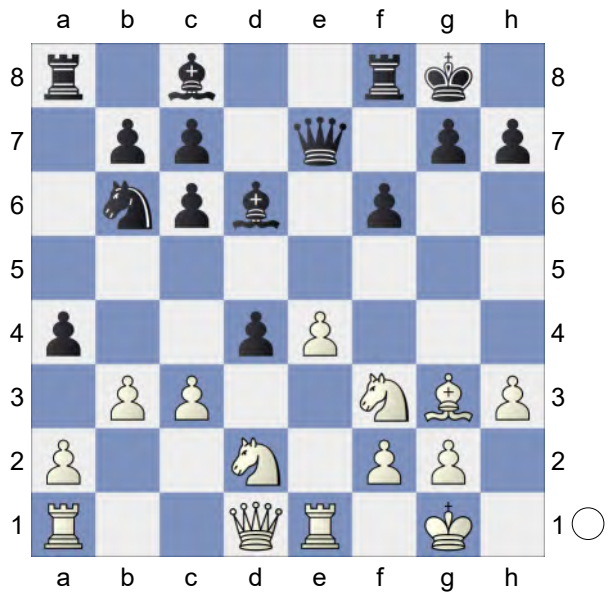


52.Kf7! b5
[52...b3 53.Nxb3]
53.Nb3 7.94/22
[⌓53.Re8 #21/22 Rxd4 54.h8Q *(54.h8R Rf4+ 55.Kg7 b3±)* 54...Rd7+ 55.Ke6 Rd1 56.Qb2 b3 57.Qc3 Re1+ 58.Qxe1]
53...Ka3 54.Nc5+ White mates.
54...Ka2 55.Kg7 Rc8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.58/Black=0.77 **56.h8Q**
[Worse is 56.h8B Rxc5 57.Kf7 b3=]
1-0

225 **C65**
□ **Sankalp,Gupta** **2545**
■ **Martirosyan,Haik M** **2656**
Masters Open 2024 (4.5) 06.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.c3 0-0 8.d4 Bd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 Qe8 11.Re1
[11.Nbd2 Qf7 12.Bg3 a5 13.b3 b6 14.Re1 Ba6 15.Qc2 c5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Rad1 Rfe8 18.Nf1 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 a4 20.Nd2 b5 21.Qd3 Ra5 22.Rb1 Nb6 23.Rfd1 axb3 24.axb3 c4 25.bxc4 Nxc4 ½-½ Skara,M (2645)-Behrmann (2529) 67/2 El Vendrell 1996 (5)]
11...Nb6 12.Nbd2 a5N
[12...Bg4 13.Bg3 Kh8 14.Qc2 Rd8 15.h3 Bh5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Nh4 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6...]
13.Bg3 a4 14.h3 Qe7 15.b3 exd4

(Diagram)

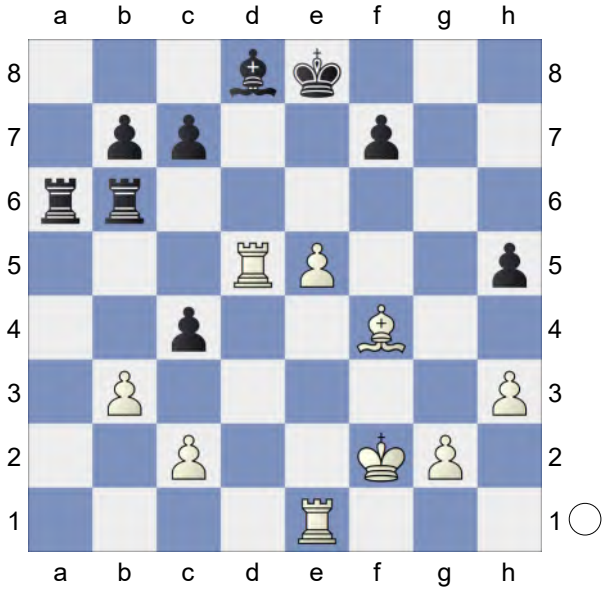


Hoping for ...Bxg3. **16.cxd4 Be6 17.Qc2 axb3 18.axb3 Bxg3 19.fxg3 Qb4 20.g4 Rad8 21.Re3 Rfe8 22.Rae1 Bf7 23.Nf1 Ra8** 0.37/22
[23...Bg6= -0.11/23 feels stronger.]
24.Qf2 -0.10/21
[24.Ng3± 0.37/22]
24...Ra3
[24...Bxb3? 25.Qb2+-]
25.N1d2 Ra2
[25...Bxb3? 26.Rb1+-]
26.R3e2 Raa8 0.27/21
[26...Bxb3? too greedy. 27.Rb1+-]
[⌓26...Nd7 -0.15/21]
27.Kh1 Nd7
[27...Bxb3? is the wrong capture. 28.Rb1+-]
28.Qg3 Rac8 29.e5 -0.09/24
[29.g5 0.27/21 is more appropriate.]
29...Bd5 30.exf6 Nxf6 31.g5 Rxe2 32.Rxe2 Nd7
[But not 32...Nh5? 33.Qg4 Rf8 34.Qxh5+-]
33.g6 hxg6 The position is equal.
34.Qxg6 Qd6 35.Qxd6 cxd6 36.Nc4 An even fight not without its subleties. Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.12 (very precise)
½-½

226 **C67**
□ **Bacrot,Etienne** **2653**
■ **Parligras,Mircea Emilian** **2550**
HUN-chT 2425 (1.1) 02.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.h3 h5 11.Bf4 Be7 12.Rad1 Nh4!** is now more promising than 12...Be6. im Vergleich zu 12...Le6 vielversprechender.
[12...Be6 13.Ng5 Rh6 14.Rfe1 Bb4 15.a3 Bxc3 16.bxc3 Ne7 0.55/21 *(16...h4=* 0.01/19 *)* 17.Ne4 Rg6 18.h4 Bd5 19.Ng3 Bf4-g5! would now be deadly. Rg4 20.Bg5! g6 21.Rd4 Rxd4 22.cxd4 a5 23.f3 b5 24.c3 -0.01/21 *(24.Ne4±* 0.56/20 *)* 24...Be6 0.47/21 *(24...Nc8=* -0.01/21 *)* 25.Bxe7 Kxe7 26.Ne4 1-0 Bacrot,E (2641)-Parligras,M (2579) FRA-chT Top 16 GpA 2022 (7.1)]
13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Ne2 Be7 15.Nd4 g5 16.Bh2 Rh6 17.Rfe1 Bd8N
[17...Bc5 18.e6 Bxe6 Caruana,F (2714)-Jakovenko,D (2732) 112/191 France 2011]
18.f4 gxf4 19.Bxf4 Rg6 20.Kf2N
[20.e6 Bxe6 21.Nxe6 Rxe6 22.Rxe6+ fxe6 23.Kf2 Bf6 24.b3 Rc8 25.g4 hxg4 26.hxg4 ½-½ Nepomniachtchi,I (2789)-Nakamura,H (2736) Carlsen Inv KO rapid 2021 (1.14)]
20...c5 21.Nb5 Rb6 22.a4 -0.02/21
[22.Bg5± 0.40/20 Bxg5 23.Nxc7+

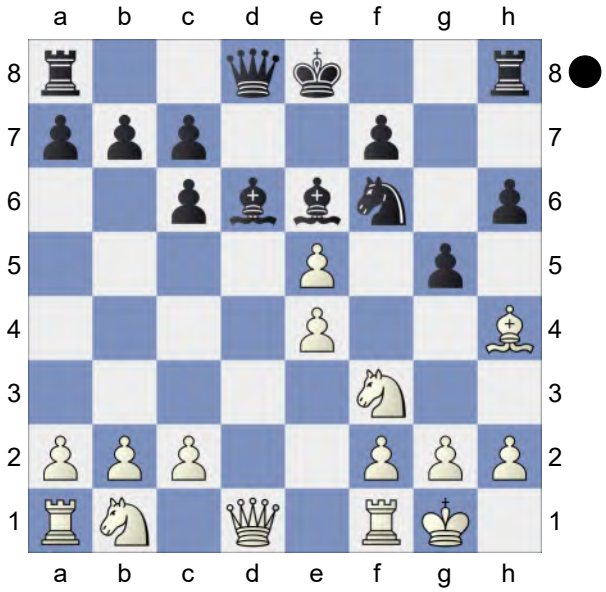
Kf8 24.Nxa8 Rxb2 25.Kg1]
22...Bd7 23.b3 Bxb5
[23...c4!?]
24.axb5 a6 25.bxa6 0.17/22
[25.Rd5± 0.59/22]
25...Raxa6= 26.Rd5 c4



Deflection **27.bxc4 Ra4** The position is equal. **28.Re4 Rc6 29.Rdd4 Ra2 30.Rd2 Ra4 31.Rdd4 Ra2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) / Black=0.07 (flawless)
½-½

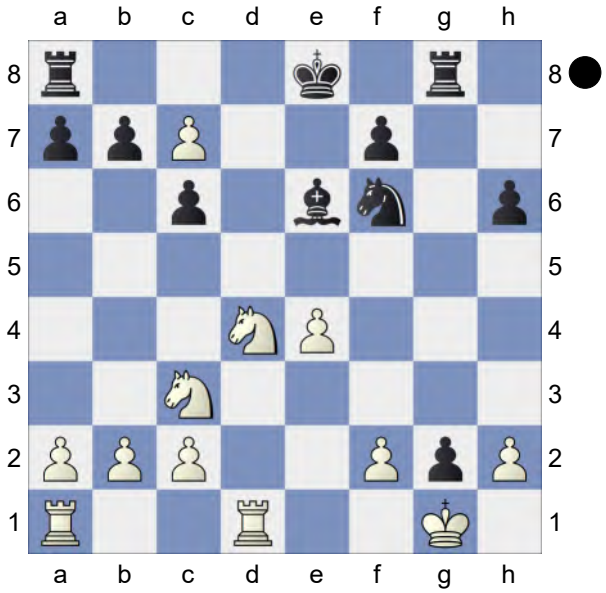
227 **C65**
□ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2743**
■ **Navara,David** **2697**
7th Gashimov Mem Rapid (2.2) 19.12.21
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Bd6
[6...Bg4!?]
7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 The position is equal.
8...Be6 0.40/21
[8...Bg4= 0.03/19 feels stronger.]
9.d4!±
[9.Nbd2 g5 10.Bg3 Nd7 11.d4 Qf6 12.Re1 0-0-0 13.c4 g4 14.c5 Bxc5 15.dxc5 gxf3 16.Qxf3 Qe7 17.b4 h5 18.h4 Rhg8 19.Qc3 Rg4 20.a4 Rdg8 21.Nf3 Rxg3 22.fxg3 Rxg3 23.Qe3 f6 1-0 Firouzja,A (2778)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2792) Saint Louis 154/14 2022]
9...g5 10.dxe5



Discovered Attack **10...gxh4 11.exd6 h3N** 1.04/21
[11...Qxd6± 0.42/23 12.e5 *(12.Nxh4 Nxe4 13.Qe2 Qf4=)* 12...Qxd1 13.Rxd1 Nd5]
[11...cxd6 12.Nc3 h3 *(12...Nh5 13.Qd4 Rg8 14.Kh1 h3 15.g3 Qf6 16.Qxf6 Nxf6 17.Nd4 0-0-0 18.f3 d5 19.e5 Nd7 20.Rae1* 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6... *)* 13.Qd4 hxg2 *(13...c5 14.Qd2 Qe7 15.Rad1 0-0-0 16.Rfe1 Bg4 17.Qe3* 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Bd6-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Bd6*)* 14.Rfe1 c5 15.Qd2 Qd7 16.Rad1 0-0-0 17.Qf4 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-

Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6...]
12.dxc7 0.37/22
[White should try 12.e5± 1.04/21 Nd7 13.Nd4 hxg2 14.Re1]
12...Qxd1 1.14/22
[12...Qxc7± 0.37/22 13.Qd3 hxg2]
13.Rxd1± hxg2 1.67/20 Black is weak on the dark squares
[13...Nxe4± 1.28/22 14.Rd4 Nf6]
14.Nc3+-
[14.Kxg2?! Nxe4 15.Rd4 Nf6= *(15...Rg8+ 16.Kf1=)*]
14...Rg8 2.13/21
[14...Rc8± 1.54/20]
15.Nd4



Nh5? 3.26/24
[15...Rc8± 1.32/21 was called for.]
16.Nce2 Rc8 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Rd6 Ke7 19.Rd3 Rxc7 20.Rad1 Nf6 3.49/20
[⌓20...Rg4 2.12/20 21.f3 Rg8]
21.e5 Ng4 22.f4
[22.Kxg2 Nxe5+ *(22...Ne3+? 23.Kf3-+)* 23.Rg3 Rxg3+ 24.Kxg3 *(24.hxg3 Rd7±)* 24...Rc8=]
[22.Rg3 Rcc8±]
22...h5 23.Rh3
[23.Kxg2? Ne3+ *(23...Nxe5+? 24.Rg3-+)* 24.Kf3 Nxd1 25.Rxd1 h4-+]
23...Rd7 24.Rxd7+ Kxd7 Endgame KRN-KRN **25.c3**
[25.Kxg2 Nxe5+ 26.Kf1 Nc4±]
25...c5 26.Rxh5
[Weaker is 26.Kxg2 Nxe5+ 27.Kf1 Rf8±]
26...Kc6 6.76/27
[⌓26...Ne3 4.10/22 27.b4 *(27.Rh3 Nf5+-)* 27...Kc6]
27.Kxg2 Nxe5+ 28.Rg5 Ng6 and ...Nxf4+! would now be decisive
29.Kg3 Kd6 30.h4 Ne7 31.Rxg8 Nxg8 KN-KN. White is a pawn up.
32.Kg4 Ke7 33.Kg5 Kf7 34.c4 Nf6 35.Nc3 Kg7 36.b3 b6 37.f5 e5 38.Nd5 Ne4+ 39.Kg4 Kh6 40.f6 Nd6 41.Ne7 and Nf5+ should not be overlooked **41...e4 42.Kf4 a6 43.Nd5**
[Not 43.Ke5 e3 44.Kxd6 e2+-]
43...b5 44.Ke5 bxc4 Black did not feel at home in the position after the opening. Weighted Error Value: White=0.17 (very precise) /Black=0.85 **45.Kxd6**
1-0

228 **C67**
□ **Vaisman,Volodea** **2601**
■ **Ojasuo,Anton** **2700**
103/229 London (6) 11.04.2023
[TA]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 d5 9.d4 0-0** White has an edge. **10.h3N**
[10.g3 Re8 *(10...h6 11.c3 Be6 12.Nbd2 Qd7 13.a4 a5 14.Nb3 Bd6 15.Bd2 Qd8 16.Nc1 Nfe7* ½-½ Baklanov,V (2455)-Percze,J

(2540) Champion's League 10/B3 email 2010 [2]) 11.Nc3 Be6 12.Ne2 g5 13.b3 h6 14.h3 Bf6 15.c3 Nd6 16.Bg2 Bg7 17.Be3 Qd7 18.h4 f6 19.hxg5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 fxg5 21.Nxg5 Bg4 22.Bxd5+ Kh8 23.Kg2 Bh6 24.Qd3 Bf5 0-1 Ernst,H (2766)-Osnos, V (2769) 77/(452) Batumi 1999 (3)]

[10.c3 Bd6 11.Bd3 Nce7 12.Nbd2 Ng6 13.Nf1 Nf4 14.Bc2 c6 15.Ng3 Nh4 16.Ne5 Nfxg2 17.Qh5 g6 18.Qh6 Qf6 19.Bg5 Qg7 20.Re2 f6 21.Qxg7+ Kxg7 22.Bxh4 Nxh4 23.Nd3 Bg4 24.Re3 Rae8 0-1 Sadhwani,R (2603)-Gukesh,D (2736) Chess.com U20 Speed blitz 2023 (3.14)]

10...Re8 11.Nc3 Be6 12.Ne2 Bd6

[12...f6 13.Nf4 Bf7 14.c3 0.14/22 *(14.c4!± 0.53/26)* 14...Bd6= 15.Bd3 Qd7 16.Qc2 Rxe1+ 17.Nxe1 Nh4! 18.Qd1 Ne7 19.Qg4 Qxg4 20.hxg4 Nhg6]

13.Bf4 0.28/23

[13.Nf4± 0.72/24]

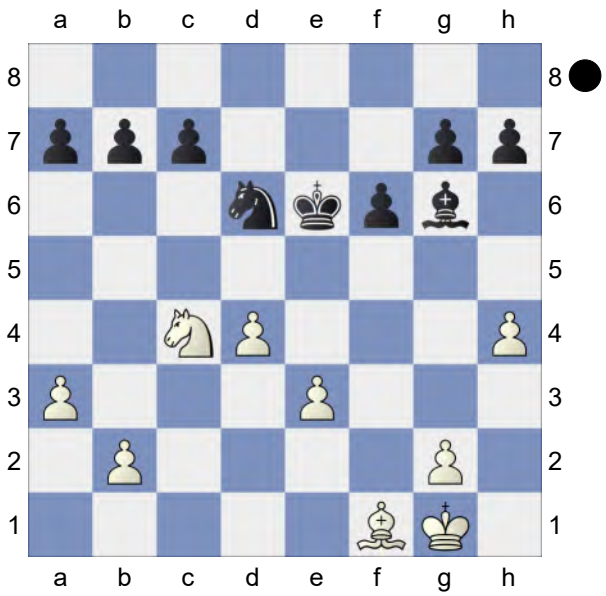
13...f6= 14.Qd2 Bf7 15.c3 Qd7 16.Bxd6 Nxd6 17.Ng3 Rxe1 18.Rxe1 Re8 19.Qf4 Ne7 20.Re2 Nef5 21.Rxe8+ Bxe8 22.Nxf5 Qxf5 23.Qe3 Qe4 24.Nd2 Qxe3 25.fxe3 Endgame KBN-KBN **25...Bg6 26.a3** -0.40/26

[26.c4= -0.01/28]

26...Kf7∓ 27.c4 dxc4! 28.Nxc4 Ke6 29.h4? -1.94/21

[White should play 29.Be2∓ -0.35/25]

(Diagram)



29...Kd5 -0.62/24

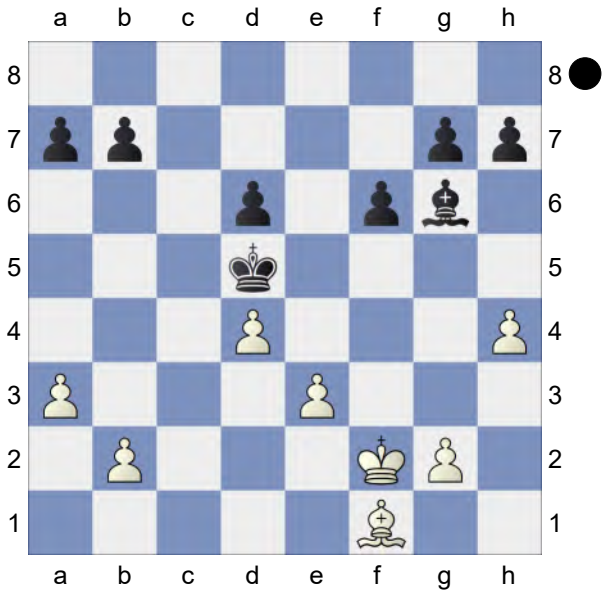
[Black should play 29...Nf5!-+ -1.94/21 30.Bd3 *(30.Na5? b6-+)* 30...Nxe3 Discovered Attack *(30...Nxh4 31.Bxg6 Nxg6 32.e4∓)* 31.Bxg6 Nxc4]

30.Nxd6 -1.28/30

[30.Nd2!∓ -0.62/24]

30...cxd6 KB-KB **31.Kf2** -1.33/25

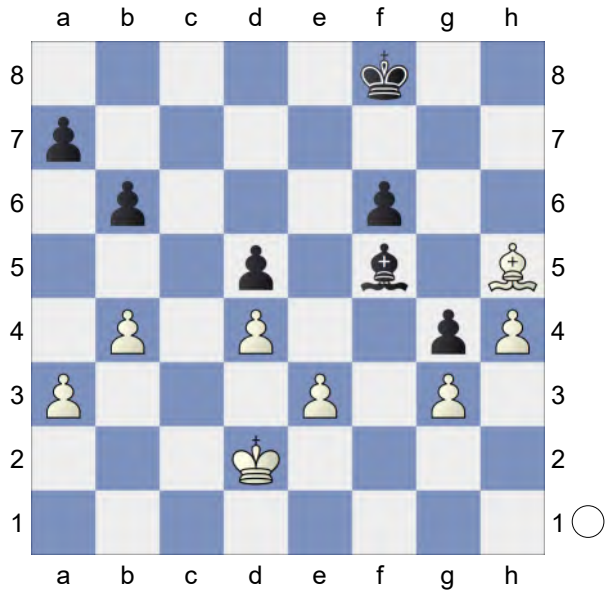
[⌓31.b4 -0.97/27]



31...Be4 -0.01/26

[31...Ke4!∓ -1.33/25]

32.g3 -0.39/26
[32.Ke1= -0.01/26 deserves consideration.]
32...Ke6 33.Bc4+ d5 34.Bf1 g5 35.Bh3+ Kf7 36.b4 h5 37.Bc8 b6 38.Ba6 Kg6 39.Be2 Kh6 40.Ke1 Kg6 41.Kd2 g4 42.Kc3 Kf7 43.Bb5 Ke7 44.Bc6 Ke6? 3.12/35
[44...Bh1= 0.01/30 and Black stays safe.]
45.Be8+- Bf5 46.Bxh5 Ke7 47.Kd2 Kf8? 8.05/27
[47...Bc8 2.57/29 48.Bg6 f5]

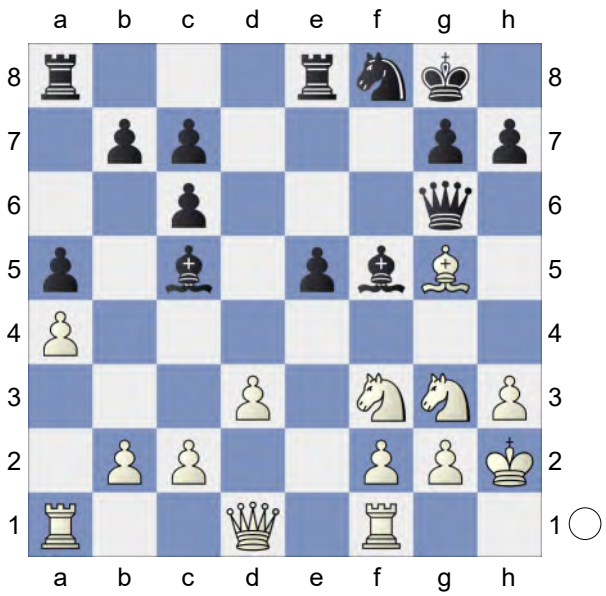


48.e4! White is clearly winning.
48...dxe4
[48...Bxe4 49.Bxg4]
49.Ke3 Ke7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.38
50.Kf4
1-0

229 **C65**
□ **Bjerre,Jonas Buhl** **2648**
■ **Thybo,Jesper Sondergaard** **2555**
DEN-ch Blitz (4) 01.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.h3**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...0-0 7.Nc3 Re8 8.Bg5!?N
The position is equal. Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[8.Be3 Bf8 9.Bg5 a5 10.a4 b6 11.0-0 Qd6 12.Be3 Nd7 13.Nd2 Ba6 14.f4 Qb4 15.f5 Qxb2 16.Nb3 Qxc3 17.Bd2 Qb2 18.Bc1 Qc3 19.Bd2 Qb2 20.Bc1 Qc3 21.Bd2 Carlsen,M (2863)-Aronian,L (2773) lichess.org (Int.-m/3-rapid) 145/(9) 2020]
8...a5 9.a4 Qd6 10.0-0 Nd7 11.Nd2N -0.13/20
[Vorgänger: 11.Ne2 Nf8 12.Ng3 Qg6 13.Kh2 f5 1.15/24 *(13...Bd6=* -0.01/20 remains equal.*)* 14.exf5± Bxf5

(Diagram)



15.Be3! Bxe3 16.fxe3 Nf3-h4 would now be deadly. Bd7 17.Qd2 1-0 Grischuk,A (2778)-Vogel,R (2441) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th July blitz 2021 (4)]

[⌓11.Nh4 0.28/21]

11...Nf8 next ...Qd6-g6 is good for Black. **12.Be3 Bxe3 13.fxe3 Be6 14.Ne2 b5 15.Ng3 Reb8 16.b3 Nd7 17.Nf5 Bxf5**

[17...Qc5 seems wilder. 18.d4 Qc3 19.Qg4 Bxf5 20.Qxf5 Rf8]

18.exf5 Nf6 0.62/19

[Black should play 18...Qc5= 0.01/21]

19.Qf3 -0.01/22

[19.Kh1± 0.62/19]

19...Re8 0.38/22

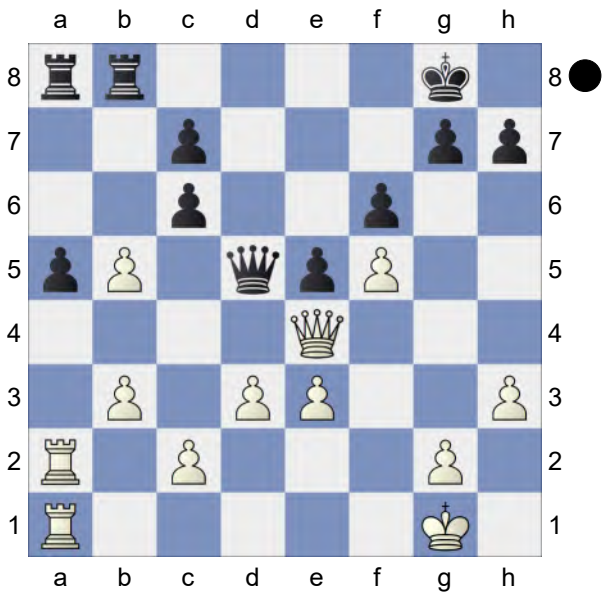
[19...Qc5= -0.01/22]

20.Ne4↑ White fights for an advantage. **20...Nxe4 21.Qxe4 f6 22.Ra2 Reb8 23.Rfa1 Qd5** 1.09/24

[23...b4= 0.29/24]

24.axb5±

(Diagram)



Discovered Attack **24...Qxe4 25.dxe4 Rxb5** Endgame KRR-KRR **26.Kf2 Kf8 27.Ke2 Ke7 28.Ra4 c5 29.Kd3 Rb4** 2.49/26 This move loses the game for Black.

[29...Kd6± 1.15/24]

30.Rxa5+- Rd8+ 31.Ke2 c4 32.R5a4 Rxa4 33.bxa4 KR-KR. White is a pawn up. **33...c3?** 4.15/26

[33...Rd6 2.58/29 was called for. 34.a5 Ra6]

34.a5 Rd2+ 35.Kf3 Rd8 36.a6 Ra8 37.Ke2 Kd6 38.Kd3 Kc5 39.Kxc3 Kb5 40.g4 c5 6.83/26

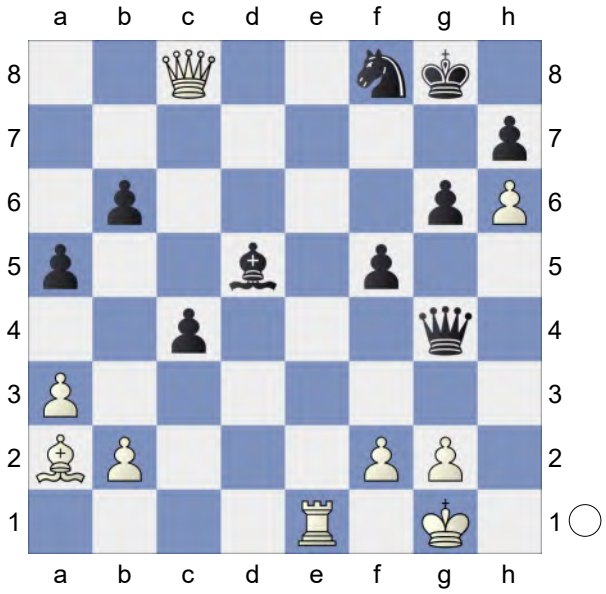
[⌓40...Ra7 4.07/25 41.h4 *(41.g5 fxg5 42.Rb1+ Kc6+-)* 41...c6]

41.Rb1+ White is clearly winning. **41...Kc6 42.Rb7 Rxa6 43.Rxg7 Ra1 44.Rxh7 Rg1 45.Rh6 Kb5 46.Rxf6 Rg3 47.Kd3 c4+ 48.Kd2 Rxh3 49.g5 Kb4 50.Rb6+ Kc5 51.Re6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) / Black=0.42

1-0

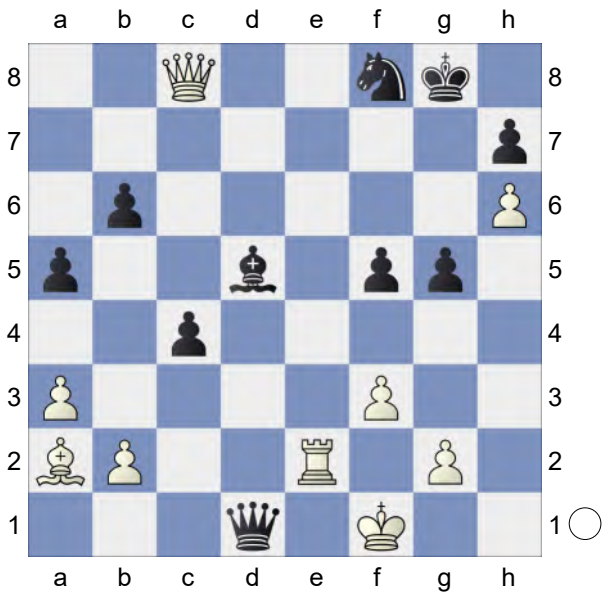
230 **C67**
□ **Abdisalimov,Abdimalik** **2536**
■ **Martirosyan,Haik M** **2656**
Masters Open 2024 (6.12) 09.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Ne8 10.c4 Bf6 11.Re1 d5** White has an edge. **12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Be3 Be6 14.Nc3 Qd7 15.Bb5N**
[15.d5 Bf5 16.Qb3 Nd6 17.Rac1 a6 18.Na4 Ne4 19.f3 Nd6 20.Nc5 Qc8 21.Bf4 Rd8 22.Kh1 h6 23.Bxd6 Rxd6 24.Nxb7 Rb6 25.Qxb6 cxb6 26.Rxc8+ Bxc8 27.Re8+ Kh7 28.Nd6 Bb7 29.Bd3+ g6 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2750)-So,W (2776) 10th Norway Chess 2022 Stavanger NOR (7.2)]
15...Qd8 16.Qf3 c6 17.Bd3 Nc7 18.Rad1 Nd5 19.Ne4 Re8 0.09/21
[19...Nxe3∓ -0.33/25 20.Nxf6+ Qxf6 21.Qxf6 gxf6 22.fxe3 Bxa2]
20.a3 a5 21.h3 Rc8 22.Bb1 b6 23.Bc1 Be7 24.Re2 Nf6 25.Ng5 Bd5 26.Qd3 g6 27.Nf3 Bf8 28.Ne5 Nd7 29.Qg3 Bg7 ...f6 is the strong threat. **30.Rde1 Nf8 31.h4 f6 32.Ng4 Rxe2 33.Rxe2 Bc4 34.Re1** With the idea h5! **34...Qxd4 35.h5 Bf7 36.Bh6** -0.58/21
[36.h6= 0.24/23 Bh8 37.Ne3]
36...c5 0.75/23
[36...Qxb2 37.Bxg7 Qd2 *(37...Kxg7? 38.h6+ Kh8 39.Qd6+-)* 38.Re7 *(38.Nxf6+ Kxg7 39.Qe5 Qxe1+ 40.Qxe1 Kxf6+-)* 38...Kxg7 39.h6+ Kh8 40.Rxf7+-]
[36...gxh5? 37.Ne3 *(37.Ne5 Ng6+-)* 37...Ng6 38.Nf5+- *(38.Bxg7 Qxb2 39.Nf5 Re8+-)*]
[36...Be6!∓ -0.58/21 keeps the upper hand. 37.Bxg7 Kxg7]
37.Bxg7±
[37.Re7 feels hotter. Re8 38.Bxg7 Kxg7 39.h6+]
37...Kxg7 38.h6+ Kg8 39.Qf3 -0.07/20
[39.Re7± 1.03/20]
39...f5!= 40.Qb7? -3.01/22
[40.Bxf5= -0.27/22 gxf5 41.Qxf5]
40...Qxg4?? 3.43/25 **41.Ba2!+-** White now steadily converts the win.
[41.Qxc8 Bd5 42.g3 Qh5= *(42...Qh3? 43.Be4+-* Pin *)*]
41...c4 42.Qxc8 Threatens to win with Qd8. **42...Bd5**

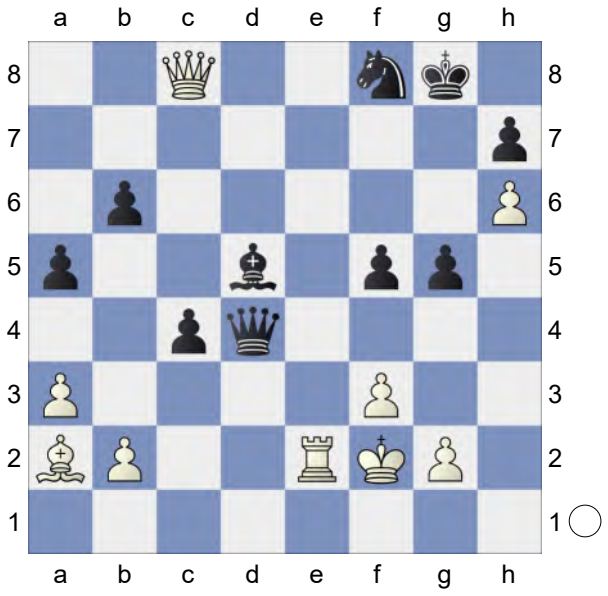


43.f3! Qd4+ 44.Kf1 And now Qd8 would win. **44...Qd3+ 45.Re2 Qd1+ 46.Kf2!** aiming for Qd8! **46...Qd4+ 47.Kg3** Qd8 would now be deadly. **47...g5 48.Kh2!**
[48.Qxf5? Qh4#]
48...Qf4+ 49.Kg1! Qd4+ 50.Kf1? 3.91/18
[50.Rf2 2.19/31 Be6 51.Qe8]
50...Qd1+

(Diagram)



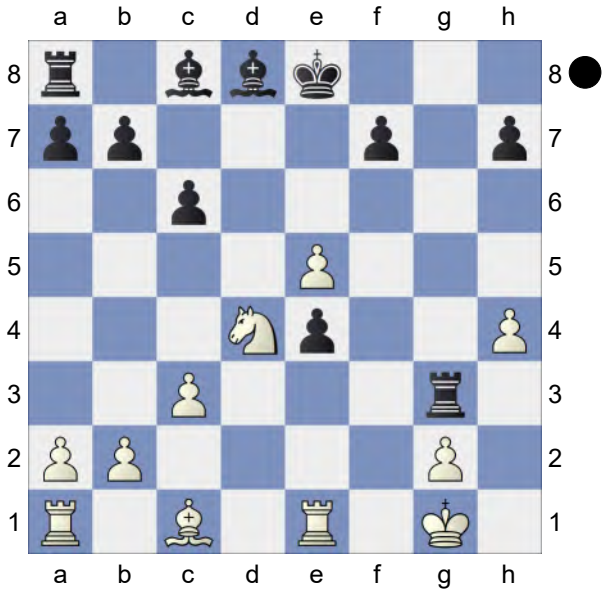
51.Kf2!
[51.Re1 Qd3+ 52.Re2 Qd1+ 53.Kf2 *(53.Re1 Qd3+ 54.Re2 g4+-)* 53...Qd4+ 54.Ke1 Bf7+- *(54...Qg1+? 55.Kd2+-)*]
51...Qd4+



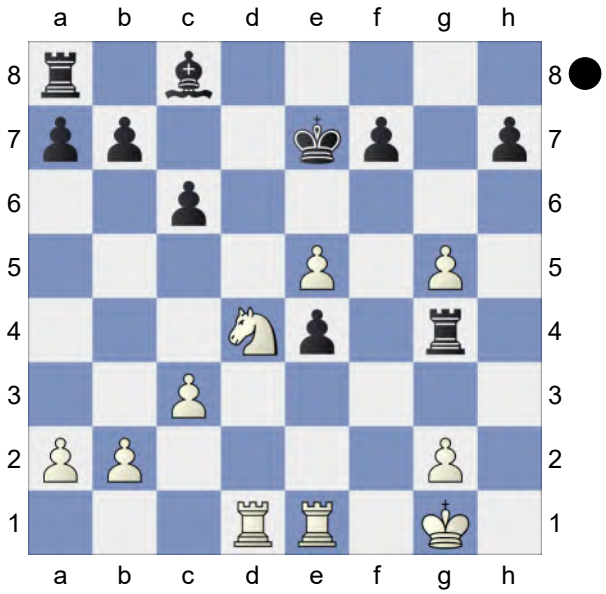
52.Ke1! Bf7 53.Qc7
[53.Qxf5 Qg1+ 54.Kd2 Qd4+ 55.Kc1 Qg1+ 56.Kd2 *(56.Kc2? Bg6-+* Pin *)* 56...Qd4+ 57.Kc1 Qg1+ 58.Kd2= *(58.Kc2? Bg6-+* Pin *)*]
53...a4 54.f4 Qg1+ 55.Kd2 Strongly threatening Qe5. **55...Qd4+ 56.Kc1** Active counter play! **56...Qg1+** 6.10/35
[⌓56...gxf4 3.87/18 57.Re1 Qf2]
57.Kc2 Qd4 Hoping for ...Qd3+. **58.Qe5**
[58.fxg5? Qd3+ 59.Kc1 Qxe2-+]
58...Ne6 59.fxg5
[59.Qxf5? Bg6-+ *(59...Qxf4? 60.Qxf4 Nxf4 61.Re5+-; 59...Qxf4? 60.Qxf4 Nxf4 61.Re5+-)*]
59...b5 60.Kc1
[60.Qxb5? Qd3+ *(60...Nxg5 61.Re8+* Back Rank *Bxe8 62.Qxe8#)* 61.Kc1 Qxe2-+]
[60.Qxf5? Bg6-+]
60...Qg1+ 61.Re1 Qxg2 62.Qb8+ Nf8 63.Qxb5 Qg3 64.Qe5 Qxg5+ 65.Kb1 Qxh6 66.Rg1+
[66.Qxf5 Bg6 67.Rg1 *(67.Bxc4+?* is the wrong capture. *Kh8-+)* 67...Qf4 *(67...Kh8 68.Rxg6 Qxg6 69.Qxg6+-)* 68.Rxg6+ Nxg6 69.Qd5+ Qf7±]
66...Ng6 67.Qxf5 Qe3 68.Rf1 Qe8 69.Ka1 Kg7 6.81/19
[⌓69...Qe6 4.44/17 70.Qa5 h5 71.Qxh5 *(71.Qxa4 h4+-)* 71...Qd6]
70.Qf6+ Kg8 71.Qc3 Qe4 72.Rc1 h5 73.Bxc4 h4 74.Bxf7+ Kxf7 75.Rf1+ Kg8 76.Qc7 Threatening mate with Qf7+. **76...h3 77.Qc8+** 7.19/19 Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.20 (precise)
[⌓77.Qf7+ #25/21 Kh8 78.Rd1 Qe7 79.Qxg6 h2 80.Qh6+ Kg8 81.Qxh2 Qf6 82.Qc7]
1-0

231 **C48**
□ **Deslandes,Pascal** **2820**
■ **Vasquez Bonifacio,Lukas Mathyas**
Moscow (7) 12.06.2021
[TA]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 Nd4 6.Ba4 c6 7.0-0 d6** 0.01/20
[7...a5∓ -0.38/21]
8.Nxd4= Bxd4 The position is equal.
9.h3
[9.Nd5 feels hotter. Ng4 10.Ne3 Qh4 11.h3]
9...g5N 0.74/22
[9...a5= -0.19/20 remains equal.]
[9...0-0 10.Ne2 Bb6 11.Ng3 Be6 12.c3 h6 13.Re1 d5 14.Qf3 Re8 15.Bc2 a5 16.a3 a4 17.exd5 Bxd5 18.Qd1 Qb8 19.Be3 Qa7 20.Qd2 Be6 21.Bxh6 gxh6 22.d4 Bxd4 23.Qxh6 Bxf2+ 24.Kh2 1-0 Siigur,J (2466)-Trani,F (2048) VWC5/pr14 ICCF 2012]
10.Ne2 -0.14/19
[10.Bxg5 Rg8 11.Bxf6 Qxf6∓]
[Better is 10.Nd5!± 0.74/22 Rg8 11.c3]
10...Bb6! 11.c3 -0.55/20
[11.Bb3!= 0.01/20]
11...Rg8∓ 12.d4! Nxe4 13.Bc2 -0.79/22
[13.Ng3∓ -0.39/23 was preferable. Nxg3 14.fxg3]
13...d5!∓ Black is more active. **14.Bxe4** -1.21/18
[14.dxe5 g4 15.Bxe4 dxe4 16.Qxd8+ Bxd8=]
[14.a4∓ -0.57/20]
14...dxe4 15.dxe5 Qxd1 16.Rxd1 g4 17.h4 and Ng3 would now be decisive
17...g3 18.Nd4 -1.27/20
[⌓18.Be3 -0.71/21]
18...Bd8 19.fxg3 Rxg3 20.Re1 -1.93/21
[20.Rf1∓ -0.93/20]

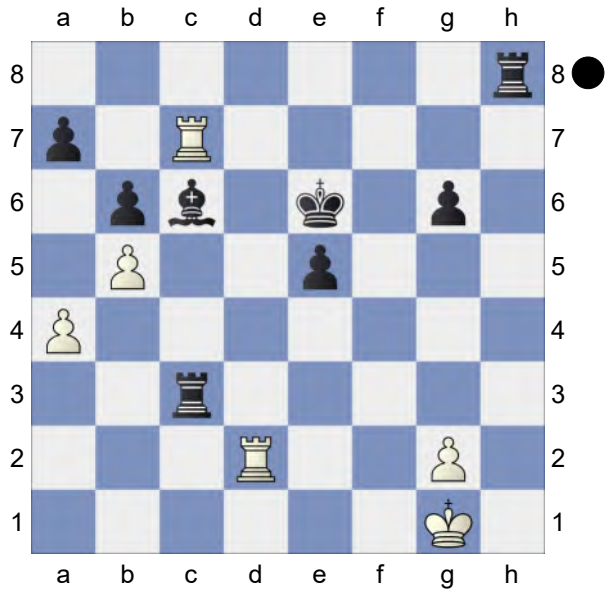


20...Rg4!-+
[20...Bxh4 21.Rxe4 Rg4 22.Bf4∓]
21.Bg5 -2.11/20
[⌓21.Be3 -1.69/21]
21...Bxg5 22.hxg5 Ke7 23.Rad1 -2.41/22
[23.Re3 -1.79/21 was called for.]



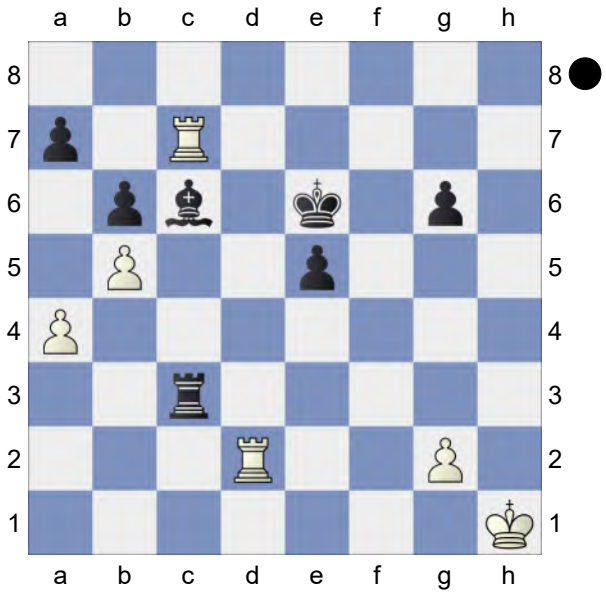
23...Bd7!

[23...Rxg5 24.Rxe4 Bh3 25.Rd2∓]
24.e6 fxe6
[Resist 24...Bxe6 25.Nxe6 fxe6 *(25...Kxe6 26.Rd4∓)* 26.Rd4]
25.g6 hxg6
[25...Rxg6 26.Rxe4 Rf8 27.Rh4∓]
26.Nb3 e5 and ...Be6 should not be overlooked **27.Na5 Be6 28.Rd2 Rb8**
[28...Bxa2 29.b3 *(29.Nxb7 Bd5∓)* 29...b6 *(29...Bxb3 30.Nxb3 b6 31.Ra2±)* 30.Nxc6+ Ke6 31.Rxa2±]
29.b4 Kf6 30.a4? -4.07/22
[30.Re3 -2.27/19]
30...Rg3 31.Rxe4? -6.46/24
[31.Rf2+ -3.40/21 Bf5 32.Rxe4]
31...Bd5 Black is clearly winning.
[31...Rxc3 32.Rf2+ Ke7 *(32...Bf5 33.g4∓* Pin *)* 33.Rxe5∓]
32.Rh4 Rxc3 33.Rh7 b6 34.Nxc6 Bxc6
[34...Rxc6 35.Rxd5 Rc1+ 36.Kh2∓]
35.Rc7 Rc1+ 36.Kf2 Rf8 37.b5 Ke6+ 38.Kg3 Rc3+ 39.Kh2 Rh8+ 40.Kg1



Rh1+!! 41.Kxh1

(Diagram)

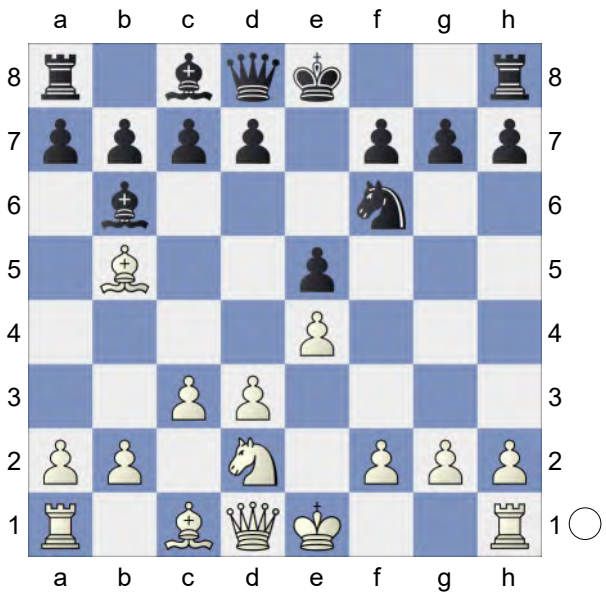


Bxg2+ Discovered Attack **42.Rxg2 Rxc7 43.Rxg6+** Endgame KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **43...Kd5 44.a5 Kc5 45.axb6 axb6 46.Re6 Kxb5 47.Rxe5+ Rc5 48.Re1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/Black=0.12 (very precise) **48...Rg5**
0-1

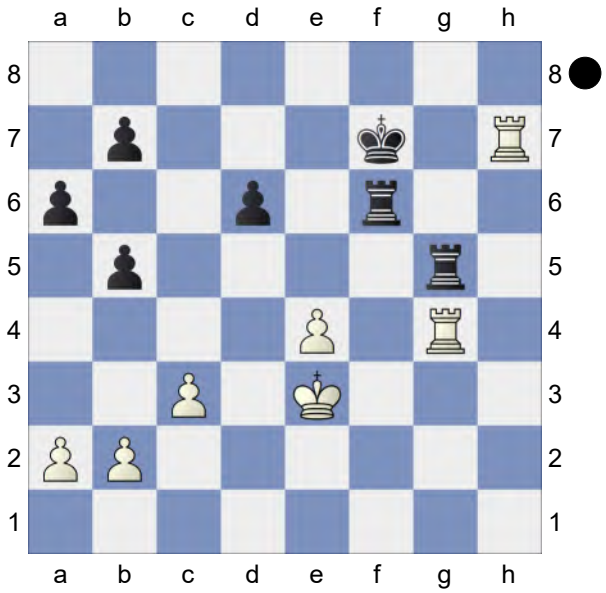
232 **C65**
□ **Karthikeyan,Murali** **2618**
■ **Svane,Frederik** **2618**
Julius Baer Play In rapid (8.29) 24.07.23
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6**

(Diagram)



8.d4! White has an edge. **8...c6**
[8...exd4 9.e5]
9.dxe5 cxb5 10.exf6 Qxf6 11.Nf3!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
11...0-0 12.0-0 d6 13.Re1
[13.Qd3 Bg4 14.Rd1 Rae8 15.a4 bxa4 16.Rxa4 Qg6 17.Bf4 Bc5 18.Bg3 Bd7 19.Raa1 Bc6 20.b4 Bxe4 21.Qf1 Bb6 22.Rxd6 Qg4 23.Nd4 Qc8 24.Nb5 Bc6 25.Nxa7 Bxa7 26.Rxa7 Bb5 27.Qc1 Ba6 ½-½ Gumularz,S (2588)-Tari,A (2629) World-chT Rapid 2023 (10)]
13...Bg4 14.Be3 Bxf3N
[14...b4 is more complex. 15.Bxb6 axb6 16.cxb4 Qxb2 17.Qd4 Rxa2 18.Rxa2 Qxa2 19.Nh4 Be6]
15.Qxf3 Qxf3 16.gxf3 Bxe3 17.Rxe3= Endgame KRR-KRR **17...f5 18.Rd1 fxe4 19.fxe4**
[19.Rxd6 exf3 20.Rdd3 Rae8=]
19...Rf6 20.f3 Raf8 21.Kf2 Rh6 22.Rh1 a6N
[Predecessor: 22...Kf7 23.Rd3 Ke7 24.h3 Rh5 25.h4 Rf6 26.Rg1 g6 27.Rg4 a6 28.Kg3 Re5 0.83/22 ;½-½ Oparin,G (2667)-Hakobyan,A (2620) Airthings Masters Div 3 W rapid 2023 (1.1) ;½-½ Oparin,G (2667)-Hakobyan,A (2620) Airthings Masters Div 3 W rapid 2023 (1.1) *(28...d5± 0.38/22 feels stronger.)*]
23.Rd3 Kf7 24.h4 Ke7 25.Rd5 Rhf6 26.Rh3 g6 1.18/23
[26...Re6± 0.53/21]
27.h5± R8f7 28.Ke3 White is more active. **28...Ke6 29.Rg5 Rc7** 2.29/24
[29...Kd7± 1.40/23 was necessary. 30.hxg6 Rxg6 31.Rxg6 *(31.Rxh7 Rxh7 32.Rxg6 Rh2±)* 31...hxg6]
30.hxg6+- hxg6 31.Rh6 Rg7 32.f4 Kf7 33.Rg4 g5 34.fxg5 Rxg5 35.Rh7+
[35.Rxg5 Rxh6 36.Rf5+ Ke7=]



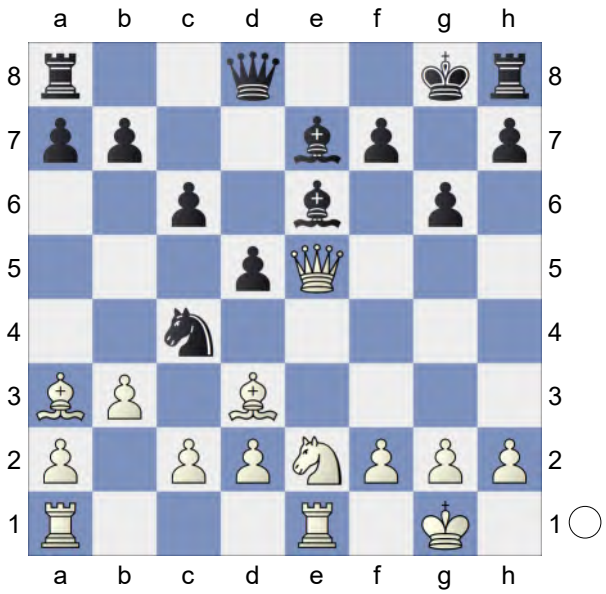
Skewer **35...Kg8 36.Rxg5+ Kxh7** KR-KR **37.Rg2 Rg6 38.Rf2 Kg7** 1.79/24
[38...Rg1± 1.24/22]
39.Kd4 Rf6 40.Rh2 Re6 1.83/24
[40...Kf7± 1.37/23]
41.Kd5 Deflection **41...Re5+** 2.16/31
[41...Rf6± 1.42/23 42.Rg2+ Kf8]

42.Kxd6 Rxe4 43.Kc7 Re7+? 4.02/23
[43...b4 1.96/24]
44.Kb6 Rd7 45.Rf2 Kg6 46.Rf4 Rd2 5.12/26
[⌓46...Kg5 3.60/26 47.Rd4 Rf7]
47.Rb4
[Weaker is 47.Kxb7 a5±]
47...Rd7 48.a4 bxa4 49.Rxa4 Kf5 50.Rb4 Ke6 51.Ka7 1.78/24
[⌓51.Re4+ 4.42/24 Kf5 52.Re2]
51...a5 52.Rb6+ 0.01/26
[52.Rxb7+- 1.82/25 Rd3 53.Kb6]
52...Kd5= 53.Rxb7 Rd6 3.44/28
White stays focused until the end.
[53...Rxb7+= 0.00/26 and Black has nothing to worry. 54.Kxb7 a4]
54.Rb5++- Kc4 55.Rxa5 Rh6 6.26/28
Prevents Ra5-h5.
[55...Rd7+ 2.95/28 56.Kb6 Rd6+ 57.Kb7 Rd2]
56.Ra4+ Kc5 57.Rb4 Rg6? 7.06/28
[57...Rh3 3.79/28 58.Ka6 Rh6+ 59.Ka5 Rh8]
58.Rb8 Black must now prevent b2-b4+.
58...Rh6? 12.41/26
[58...Kc4 3.55/25 59.Rb4+ Kd3]
59.b3 Rg6 60.Rc8+ Kb5 61.c4+ Kb4 62.Rb8+ Kc3 63.Rb6 Rg7+ 64.Ka6 Kd4 65.Kb5 Rg5+ 66.Kb4 Rg1 67.Rd6+ Ke5 68.c5 Ra1 69.Kb5 Ra8 70.b4 Rb8+ 71.Kc4 Rh8 72.Rd5+ Ke6 73.Rd1 Rh4+ 74.Kb5 Rh2 75.c6 Rb2 76.Kc5 Rc2+ 77.Kb6 White wants to mate with c6-c7. **77...Rc4 78.b5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/ Black=0.57
1-0

233 **C67**
□ **Tari,Aryan** **2623**
■ **Aditya,Mittal** **2595**
Wch Blitz Samarkand (11) 29.12.2023
[Kitty Kat]

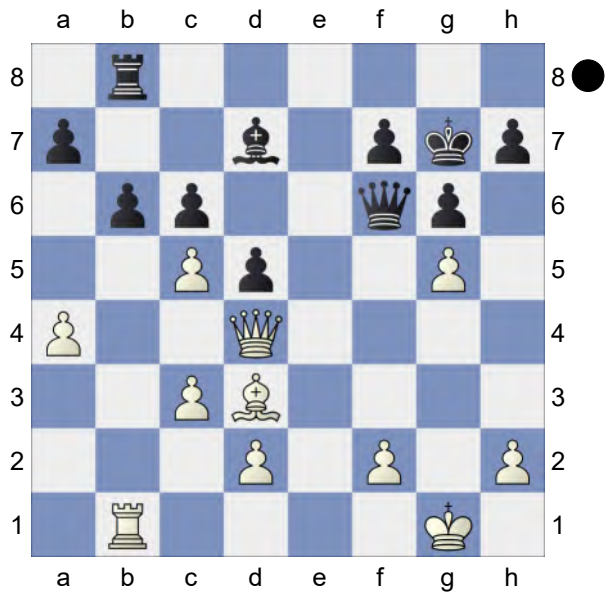
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 This game is from the first round of the London Chess Classic. The stakes were high - not only in terms of the generous prize fund, but a win would have given Caruana the no.1 position on the live classical ratings, ahead of Carlsen. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6! 6.Bf1 Be7 7.Nc3 Nf5 8.Nxe5** The position is equal. **8...Nxe5** has lost popularity (8...0-0). verliert an Beliebtheit (8...0-0). **9.Rxe5 d6! 10.Re1 d5 11.Bd3N** -0.28/19 A relevant novelty. Eine relevante Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 11.d4 0-0 12.Ne2 c6 13.c3 Re8 14.Bf4 Bd6 15.Qd2 Bd7 16.Ng3 Qc7 17.Bxd6 Qxd6 ½-½ Caruana,F (2835)-So,W (2770) Clutch-ch June rapid 2020 (2.3) 18.a4 a5 19.Nh5 Qh6 20.Qxh6 Nxh6 21.Nf4 Nf5 22.Nd3 Nd6 23.Rxe8+ Bxe8 24.f3 b6 25.Kf2 f6 26.h4 Bg6 27.b3 Kf7 28.Rc1 Bxd3 29.Bxd3 c5 30.h5 f5 31.Re1 c4 32.Bc2 Rc8 ½-½ Caruana,F (2835)-So,W (2770) lichess.org (Internet-m/3-rapid) 2020 33.Re5 cxb3 34.Bxb3 Rxc3 35.Bxd5+ Kf8 36.h6 gxh6 37.Re6 Nc4 38.Bxc4 Rxc4 39.Ke3 Rxa4 40.Rxb6 Kg7 41.Ra6 h5 42.g3 f4+ 43.Kxf4 Rxd4+ 44.Ke5 Rd3 45.Ke4 Ra3 46.Kf4 a4 47.Kg5 Rxf3 ½-½ Caruana,F (2832)-Nakamura,H (2746) Chess Classic 2018 (1.1)]
[11.d4 0.08/20]
11...c6= 12.Qe2 Nd6 0.30/19

[12...Nd4∓ -0.48/19 13.Qd1 Ne6]
13.Qe5 Kf8 14.b3! Be6 0.64/20
[14...Ne8= 0.09/18]
15.Bb2 0.14/18
[15.Ba3± 0.64/20]
15...Bf6 16.Qg3 g6 1.06/20
[16...Ne8= 0.11/18]
17.Ba3± Be7 18.Qe5 0.74/19
White has more active pieces.
[⌓18.Re3 1.21/18]
18...Kg8? 5.08/20
[18...Rg8± 0.74/19 is a better chance.]
19.Ne2? 0.23/20
[19.Nxd5+- 5.08/20 Bxd5 *(19...cxd5? 20.Bb2+-)* 20.Qxe7 Qxe7 21.Rxe7]
19...Nc4=



Repels Ba3-b2. Discovered Attack
20.bxc4
[20.Bxe7 Nxe5 21.Bxd8 Rxd8 22.Nf4]
20...Bxa3 21.Nf4
[21.Qe3 Qd6 22.cxd5 Bxd5 23.Nc3]
21...Bd6
[21...dxc4? 22.Nxe6 fxe6 23.Bxc4+-]
22.Qe3 -0.53/21
[22.Qd4= -0.15/22 Bxf4 23.Qxf4]
22...Bxf4 -0.09/19
[22...Qh4∓ -0.53/21 23.Nxe6 Qxh2+ 24.Kf1 Re8 Pin]
23.Qxf4 Kg7
[23...dxc4 24.Bxc4 Bxc4 25.Qxc4 Kg7]
24.c5↑ Black is under pressure. **24...Re8**
25.Rab1 Rb8 26.a4 b6 27.Qd4+ Qf6 28.c3
[28.Qxf6+ Kxf6 29.cxb6 Rxb6]
28...Bd7
[28...Qxd4 29.cxd4 Kf6 30.f4 h5]
29.Rxe8
[29.Qxf6+ Kxf6 30.Rxe8 Rxe8 31.cxb6 axb6 32.f3]
29...Bxe8 0.46/21
[29...Rxe8= 0.07/21 feels stronger. 30.Qxf6+ *(30.cxb6 Qxd4* Remove Defender *31.cxd4 axb6∓)* 30...Kxf6]
30.g4 -0.05/21
[30.cxb6 Qxd4 31.cxd4 Rxb6 *(31...axb6 32.a5=)*]
[White should play 30.Qe3± 0.46/21]
30...Bd7 Threatens to win with ...Qf6xd4.
[30...Qxd4 simplifies 31.cxd4 b5 32.axb5 cxb5 33.Ra1 b4]
31.g5

(Diagram)



Pin **31...Qxd4 32.cxd4** Endgame KRB-KRB **32...f6 33.h4 fxg5 34.hxg5 h6 35.f4 hxg5 36.fxg5 Kf7** 0.67/25
[Black should play 36...Bf5!= -0.01/26 37.Bxf5 gxf5]
37.Rf1+ 0.01/25
[37.Kg2!± 0.67/25]
37...Kg7 1.10/25
[37...Bf5!= 0.01/25 remains equal.]
38.Rb1 -0.01/25
[38.Rf6± 1.10/25]
38...Kf7 39.Kg2 Black is on the road to losing. **39...Kg7 40.Kg3 Be8?** 3.18/25
[40...Rh8± 1.06/24 keeps fighting.]
41.Kf4+- Rb7 42.Ke5 Re7+ 43.Kd6 Rb7 44.Ba6 Rd7+ 45.Kxc6 bxc5 46.dxc5 Re7+ 47.Kd6 Rd7+ 48.Ke6 Strongly threatening c5-c6. **48...Rc7 49.Kxd5 Bxa4 50.Rb4 Be8** 6.07/26
[⌓50...Rd7+ 4.33/23 51.Ke6 Bc6]
51.d4 Rd7+ 52.Ke6 Kf8 53.c6 Re7+ 54.Kd6 White threatens Rb4-b8 and mate. **54...Re1 55.d5** White mates. **55...Rc1 56.c7 Kf7 57.c8Q** Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.52
1-0

234 **C65**
□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2604**
■ **Eljanov,Pavel** **2706**
Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Dec Late b..
[Kitty Kat]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Qe2 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.h3 now supersedes 7.d3. löst 7.d3 inzwischen ab. **7...Bb6 8.Bxc6!?** Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **8...bxc6 9.d3 a5N**
[Vorgänger: 9...Rb8 10.Be3 Bxe3 11.fxe3 Ba6 12.c4 Qe7 13.Nc3 Nd7 14.Nh2 g6 15.Rf2 Qg5 0-1 (50) Litvinov,D (1843)-Nasyrova,E (2150) Cheliabinsk 2019]
10.Rd1 Re8 11.Nbd2 a4 12.Nc4 h6 13.Be3 Bxe3 14.Nxe3 c5 15.g4 Nh7 16.Kh2 Nf8 17.Rg1 Ng6 18.Rg3 Nf4 19.Qd2 Rb8 20.g5 h5 21.g6 fxg6 22.Ng2 Rf8 23.Nxf4 Rxf4 24.Rag1 Qd7 25.R1g2 Rf6 26.Nh4 a3 27.b3 Qf7 28.Nxg6 Be6 29.Qg5 Rxf2 30.Qxh5 Rxg2+ 31.Rxg2
1-0

235 **C67**
□ **Zilka,Stepan** **2599**
■ **L'Ami,Erwin** **2627**
Bundesliga 2324 (2.4) 22.10.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Ne8 10.d5**
[10.c4 Bf6 11.Re1 d5 12.cxd5 Qxd5 13.Be3 Bf5 14.Nc3 Qd7 15.Qf3 Nd6 16.Nd5 Bd8 17.Bf4 Bg6

18.Rad1 c6 19.Nc3 Ba5 20.Re5 Bc7 21.d5 c5 22.h4 Bf5 23.Rde1 Bd8 24.R5e3 Bc2 Fedorchuk,S (2589)-Bulmaga,I (2416) Bastia 2023 1-0]

10...Bc5

[10...d6 11.Re1 Bg5 12.Nc3 Bxc1 13.Rxc1 Nf6 14.Qd4 Bf5 15.Qb4 Rb8 16.Re3 c5 17.dxc6 bxc6 18.Qa3 Qc7 19.Rce1 Rfe8 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.Rxe8+ Nxe8 22.Bd3 ½-½ (22) Ferri,S (2610)-Coll Sola,J (2720) Las Palmas 2015 Capablanca: Move by Move [Dragan Solak]]

11.Nd2N -0.01/21 A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

[11.Be3± 0.31/18]

[11.Re1 d6 *(11...Qh4 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.Rxe3 d6 14.Nc3 Bd7 15.Re4 Qd8 16.Qd4 Nf6 17.Re2 Re8 18.Rae1 Rxe2 19.Rxe2 a6 20.h3 Qb8 21.g4 h6 22.Ne4 Nxe4 23.Rxe4 c5 24.dxc6 bxc6 25.Re3 d5 26.c4* Lazarevic,M (2663)-Rudolph,J (2628) European Championship, Antalya 2018 Juniors [Dragan Solak] 1-0 (75) *)* 12.Nc3 Bf5 13.Ne4 *(13.Bd3 Qh4 14.g3 Qh3 15.Ne4 Bxe4 16.Rxe4 Bxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 18.Kf3 Qh5+ 19.g4 Qh3+ 20.Ke2 Qg2+ 21.Ke1 Nf6 22.Qe2 Qg3+ 23.Qf2 Nxe4 24.Qxg3 Nxg3 25.Kf2 Rfe8 26.Kxg3 Re5 27.Bc4 Re1* Chapter C50-Games Game 10 (58)*)* 13...Bxe4 14.Rxe4 f5 15.Re1 Qh4 16.g3 Bxf2+ 17.Kxf2 Qxh2+ 18.Kf3 Nf6 19.Qd2 Qh5+ 20.Kg2 Ng4 21.Kg1 f4 22.gxf4 g5 23.Qg2 gxf4 24.Be2 f3 25.Bxf3 Rxf3 Musielak,M (2546)-7. ♗b3 ♘bd7 8. ♗g5 Qa5_71 (2416) Reykjavik 2021 CBM 048 Extra [Aiken] 1-0 (31)]

11...d6= The position is equal. **12.Re1**

[12.Re2 Bg4 13.Nf3 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Qh4∓]

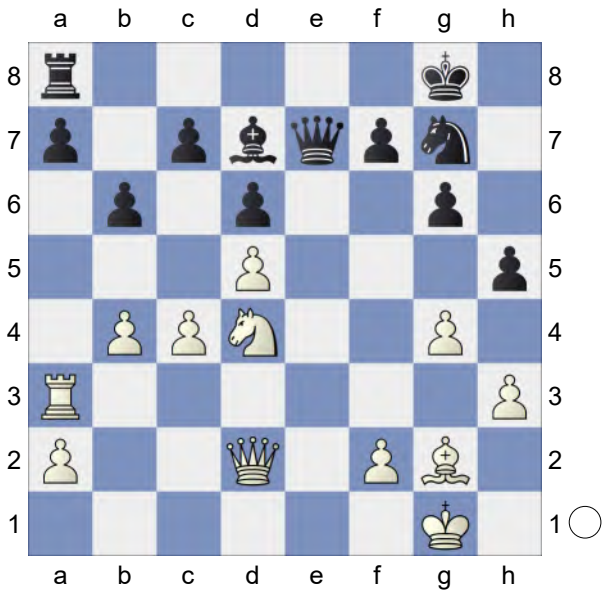
12...Nf6 13.Nb3 Bb6 Threatening ... Ng4. **14.Be3!N** A relevant novelty. Eine relevante Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 14.h3 Re8 15.a4 a5 16.c4 Rxe1 17.Qxe1 Bd7 18.Be3 Qe8 19.Bxb6 Qxe1 20.Rxe1 cxb6 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2777)-Aronian,L (2767) chess.com Speed 3m+1spm 2018 blitz (3.13)]

14...Bxe3 15.Rxe3 Re8 16.Rxe8+ Qxe8 17.c4 Bd7 18.Qd2 Qf8 19.Re1 b6 20.Nd4 Re8 21.b4 g6 22.h3 Nh5 23.Re3 Ng7 0.70/19

[⌓23...Rxe3 0.33/21 24.Qxe3 Nf6]

24.Ra3± Ra8 25.g4 Qe7 26.Bg2 h5



27.Ne6!↑ White is pushing. **27...Re8** 1.19/22

[27...fxe6? 28.dxe6 Rf8 29.exd7+-]

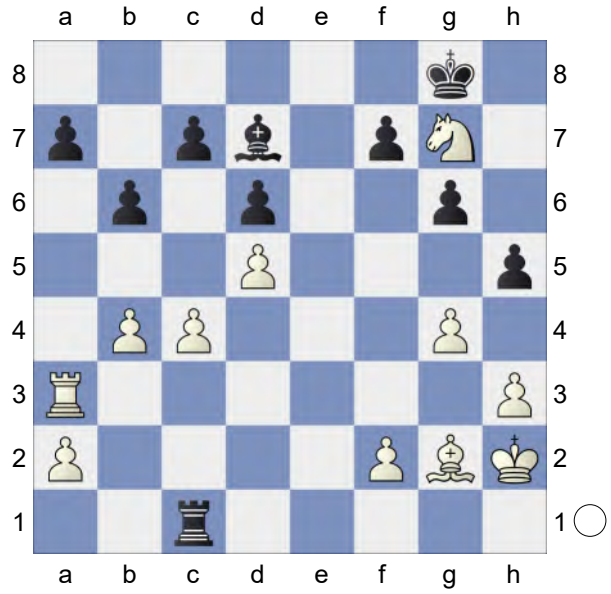
[27...Qf6= 0.27/20 keeps the balance.]

[27...hxg4 28.hxg4]

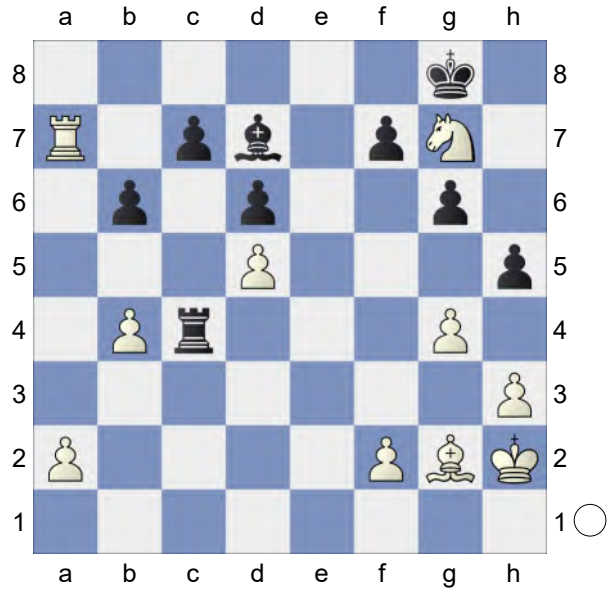
28.Nxg7± &Bianco is much more active.

[28.Rxa7 fxe6 29.Rxc7 hxg4 30.hxg4 *(30.Qh6 gxh3 31.dxe6 hxg2∓)* 30...Rc8 31.Rxc8+ Bxc8∓]

28...Qe1+ 29.Qxe1 Rxe1+ 30.Kh2 aiming for Nxh5! **30...Rc1**

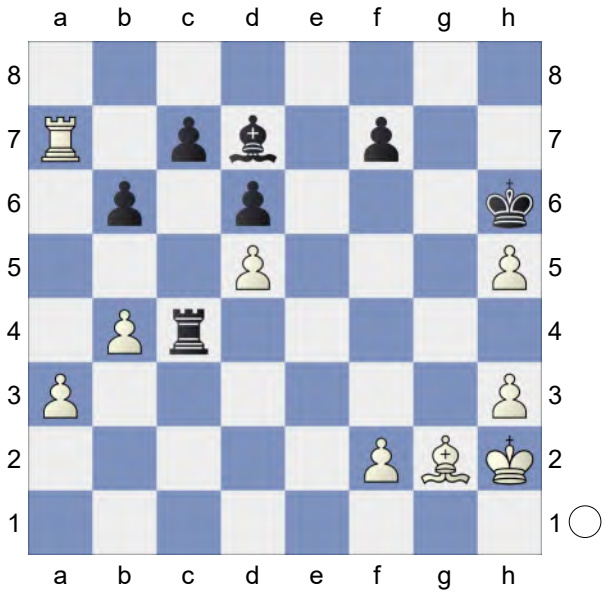


31.Rxa7! 1.62/23 **Rxc4+-**



32.Nxh5 gxh5 33.gxh5± Endgame KRB-KRB **33...Kg7 34.a3 Kh6**

(Diagram)



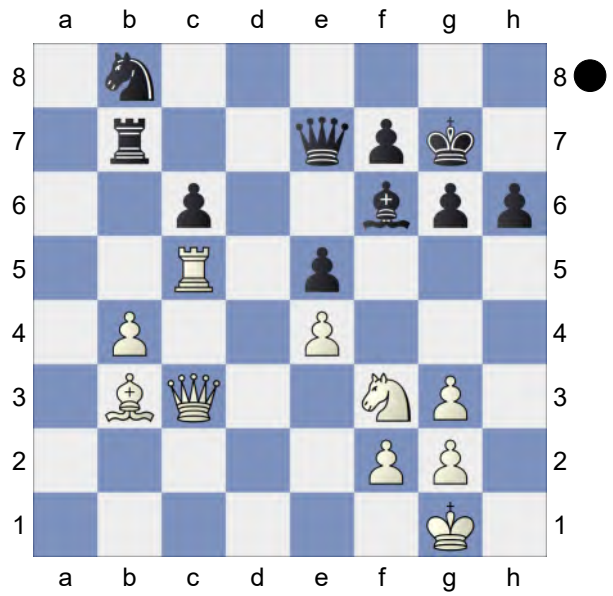
35.Bf1 0.57/23
[35.a4!+- 1.73/23]
35...Rc1!± 36.Be2 Rc2 1.01/24
[36...Bf5± 0.63/23 feels stronger.]
37.Bd1 0.19/23
[37.Bg4± 1.01/24 f5 38.Bd1 Rxf2+ 39.Kg3]
37...Rc3= 38.h4 b5 39.Rb7 f5 1.24/23
[Black should play 39...Kg7 0.75/23]
40.Rb8± f4 41.Rf8 1.24/26
[41.Rg8+- 1.88/23]
41...Rxa3? 3.39/26 Black cannot hold the game after this.
[41...Rh3+± 1.24/26 42.Kg2 Rxh4]
42.Rxf4 Rf7 is the strong threat.
42...Be8 4.10/24
[⌓42...Ra1 2.60/24]
43.Rf8 Ra8 44.Bg4 Kg7 45.Rf5 Strongly threatening Kg3. **45...Ra4 46.Rf4 c5 47.dxc6! Bxc6 48.Rd4 d5 49.Bf3 Kf6 50.Rg4 Bd7 51.Rg6+ Ke5 52.h6 Ra8 53.Rg5+ Kf4 54.Bxd5 Rh8 55.Rg6**
[Less strong is 55.Rg7 Bf5±]
55...Bf5 56.Rb6 Kg4 57.Be6 White is clearly winning. **57...Bxe6 58.Rxe6 Kxh4 59.Rg6 Kh5 60.Rg3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very

precise) /Black=0.18 (very precise)
1-0

236 **C65**
□ **Bosiocic,Marin** **2555**
■ **Svane,Rasmus** **2629**
Julius Baer GenCup D3 W rapid (1.1)
[Kitty Kat]

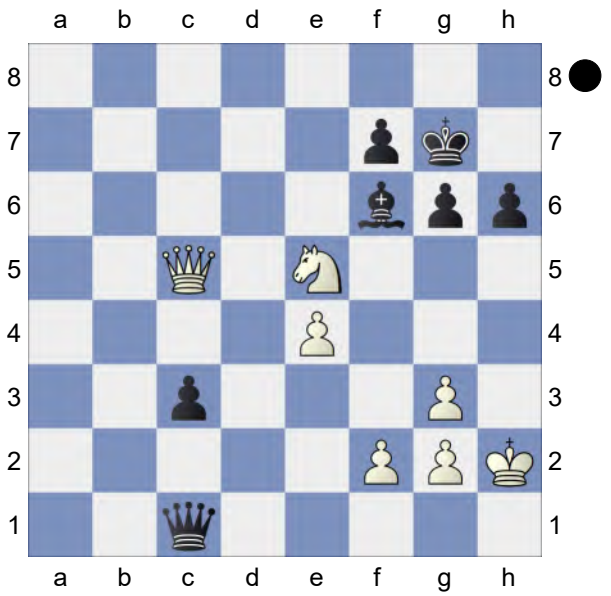
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 0-0!?** An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **7.0-0 Be7!?** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **8.Nbd2** The position is equal. **8...d6 9.c3 Nh5 10.Bg3**
[10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Nc4 Nf4 12.Ne3 Qf6 13.g3 Nh3+ 14.Kh1 Ne7 15.Bc4 c6 16.Bb3 Ng6 17.Qe2 a5 18.a4 Be6 19.Bxe6 fxe6 20.Nd2 d5 21.Qh5 Ng5 22.h4 Nf3 23.Nxf3 Qxf3+ 24.Qxf3 Rxf3 1-0 Molina,R (2853)-10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2769) Mar del Plata Rd: 1960 (10) 25.Kg2 Rf7 26.Rfe1 h5 27.Nf1 Kf8 28.Nd2 Ke7 29.Re2 Kd6 30.Nf3 Raf8 31.Ng5 Re7 32.Rae1 Rfe8 33.Nf3 Nh8 34.d4 exd4 35.Nxd4 g6 36.Re3 Nf7 37.e5+ Kd7 38.Rf3 Nh6 39.Rf6 Rg7 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2839)-So,W (2753) Chess.com Speed Chess blitz 2023 (3.21)]
10...Nb8N
[10...Nxg3 11.hxg3 Nb8 12.d4 exd4 13.cxd4 c6 14.Bd3 Be6 15.Nc4 Nd7 16.Re1 Re8 17.Ne3 Nf6 18.Qc2 Qb6 19.a3 Rad8 20.b4 Ng4 21.Nc4 Qc7 22.Na5 c5 23.Rac1 b6 24.Nb3 Bf8 25.d5 ½-½ Full Theory (2619)-9. ♘g6 fg6 10. ♘e2 ♕b6_82 (2533) Regensburg op 1998 Bd7 26.b5 Qb7 27.Nbd2 g6 28.Nc4 Qc7 29.a4 Bg7 30.Re2 Re7 31.Rb1 Bc8 32.a5 Ree8 33.Rb3 Bb7 34.Qc1 h5 35.Ra3 Bh6 36.Qd1 Bg7 37.axb6 axb6 38.Rea2 Rb8 39.Nh2 Ne5 40.Nxe5 ½-½ Robson,N (2619)-Turkov,V (2533) corr WC29/final 2015]
11.d4 c6 12.Bd3 Nxg3 13.hxg3 Bf6N
[Vorgänger: 13...Nd7 14.a4 Qc7 15.Re1 Re8 16.Nf1 Nf6 17.Qc2 g6 18.Ne3 Bf8 19.a5 Bd7 1-0 Pavlidis,A (2539)-Zorko,J (2457) EU-ch rapid Katowice 2017 (9)]
14.dxe5 dxe5 15.Nc4 Qc7 16.b4 b5 17.Ne3 a5 18.a4 axb4! 19.cxb4 bxa4 0.75/20
[19...Rd8= 0.15/20 keeps the balance.]
20.Rxa4± Rxa4 21.Qxa4 Rd8 22.Be2 Be6 23.Rc1 Qb7 24.Nc4 0.01/20
[24.Kh2± 0.73/20]
24...Bxc4 25.Bxc4 g6 26.Bb3 Kg7 27.Qa5 Qe7 0.43/20
[27...Nd7= 0.02/19 28.Qa2 Qxb4]
28.Rc5 -0.05/20
[28.Ba4± 0.43/20]
28...Rd7= 29.Qa1
[29.Nxe5? Ra7 30.Nxg6 Qb7-+ *(30...Kxg6? 31.Qb6-+; 30...Rxa5? 31.Nxe7 Rxc5 32.bxc5-+)*]
29...Rb7 30.Qc3
[30.Nxe5? Nd7 *(30...Rxb4? 31.Qc3-+)* 31.Qa2 Nxe5-+ *(31...Bxe5? 32.Rc4-+; 31...Nxc5? 32.Nxc6 Qxe4 33.bxc5-+)*]

(Diagram)

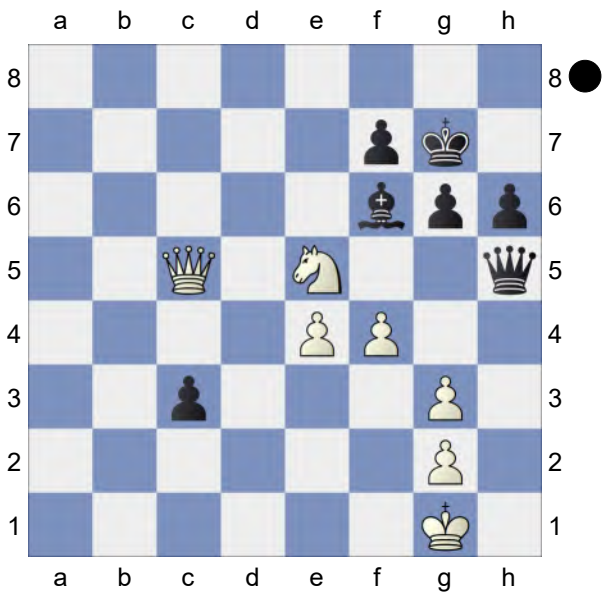


30...Rxb4! Decoy **31.Nd2**
[31.Rc4 Rb7]
31...Rb5 32.Rc4 c5 33.Ba4 Rb4 34.Nf1 Rxc4 -0.20/21
[34...Bg5∓ -0.69/21 was preferable.]
35.Qxc4 Bg5 36.Qd5 Na6 37.Bb5? -3.64/26
[White should play 37.Qd3∓ -0.51/23 Nc7 38.Bb3]
37...Nc7!-+ 38.Qc4 Nxb5 39.Qxb5 Endgame KQB-KQN. Black is a pawn up. **39...Qd6 40.Qb1?** -4.79/26
[40.Ne3 -2.81/24 Qd4 *(40...Bxe3? 41.fxe3 Qc7 42.Qc4-+)* 41.Nd5]
40...c4 41.Nh2 Qd4 -2.87/23
[⌓41...c3 -4.98/26 42.Nf3 Qa3]
42.Nf3 Qc3 43.Qb5 Bf6 44.Qc5 Qc1+ -0.97/24
[44...Qd3-+ -2.06/25 45.Kh2 c3 *(45...Qxe4? 46.Nd2-+)*]
45.Kh2∓ c3 ...c3-c2 would now be deadly. **46.Nxe5?** -4.72/25
[46.Qd5∓ -1.04/24]

(Diagram)



46...Qg5!-+ 47.f4 -7.29/27
[⌓47.Qxc3 -4.33/23 Bxe5 *(47...Qxe5? 48.Qc2-+)* 48.Qd3]
47...Qh5+ 48.Kg1



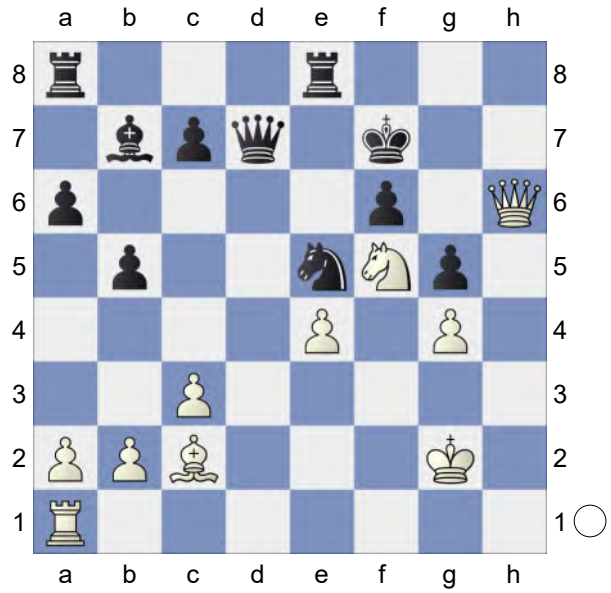
Bxe5? -1.23/24
[48...Qd1+!-+ -7.18/26 and Black stays clearly on top. 49.Kf2 Qd2+ *(49...c2? 50.Qc7-+)* 50.Kf3 g5 *(50...c2? 51.Qc7-+)*]
49.fxe5? -21.11/25
[49.g4∓ -1.23/24 Qxg4 50.Qxe5+ Kh7 51.Qc7]
49...Qd1+ 50.Kh2 c2 51.e6 c1Q

-4.70/5
[51...c1B 52.e7±]
52.Qe5+ -#4/10
[52.Qxc1-+ -4.70/5 Qxc1 53.e7]
52...f6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.80/Black=0.48
0-1

237 **C65**
□ **LZCarlsenMagnus** **3125**
■ **GarryKasparov13champ** **2671**
Rapid 15.03.2021
[Kitty Kat]

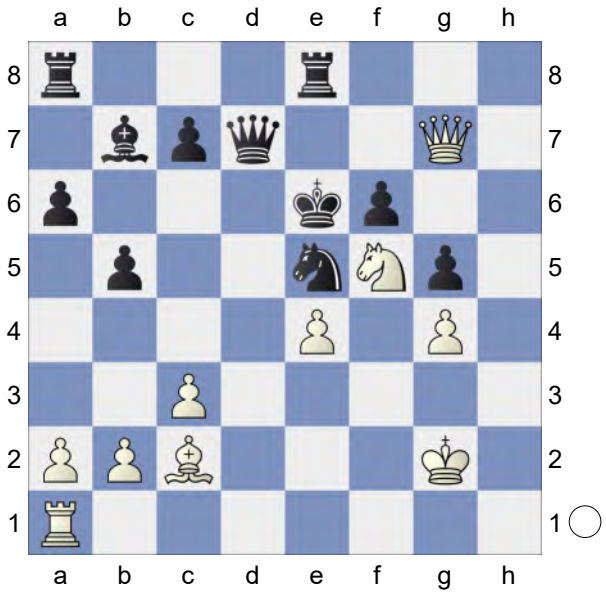
Rapid 15min+10sec C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.Re1 a6 8.Ba4 b5N**
[8...Ba7 9.h3 Ne7 10.Nbd2 Ng6 11.Nf1 d5 12.Qe2 c6 13.Bd2 Re8 14.Rad1 h6 15.Ng3 Be6 16.Qf1 b5 17.Bb3 Qc7 18.exd5 cxd5 19.d4 e4 20.Nh2 Bb8 21.Qe2 Nf4 22.Bxf4 Qxf4 23.Nhf1 Nakamura,H (2736)-Carlsen,M (2847) chess24.com INT 2021 [Mikhalevski,V] 0-1 (37) Qg5 24.Kh1 Bd6 25.Qd2 Bf4 26.Qc2 Rac8 27.Ne2 Bb8 28.Qd2 Qh4 29.Kg1 Nh5 30.a4 f5 31.axb5 axb5 32.Ra1 f4 33.Ra6 Rcd8 34.f3 e3 35.Qd1 Bxh3 36.Rg6 Bf5 37.Bc2 Bxc2 0-1 (37) Giorgadze,T (2736)-Lozon Urena,X (2847) Bled 2021 200 Traps In The Opening [List,Paul M]]
[8...h6 9.h3 Ba7 10.Nbd2 Ne7 11.Nf1 Ng6 12.Ng3 Be6 13.d4 c6 14.Be3 Qc7 15.Qc2 c5 16.d5 Bc8 17.c4 Rb8 18.Bb3 Bb6 19.Qc1 Kh7 20.Bc2 Ba5 21.Re2 b5 22.Bd3 Ne7 23.a3 Velicka,P (2332)-Mester,P (2174) Schwaebisch Gmuend 2025 1-0 (39)]
9.Bc2 The position is equal. **9...Bb7 10.d4 Ba7 11.Bg5 h6 12.Bh4 g5 13.Bg3**
[13.Nxg5 with more complications. hxg5 14.Bxg5 exd4 15.e5]
13...Nb8 1.29/19
[13...exd4= 0.14/15 keeps the balance. 14.Nxd4 Nxd4 15.cxd4 Re8]
14.Nbd2 Re8 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Bxe5 0.78/18
[White should try 16.Nxe5 1.42/18 Black must now prevent Bb3. Nbd7 17.Nxf7! Kxf7 18.e5]
16...Ng4 2.18/19
[16...Nc6± 0.78/18 17.Bg3 Nh5]
17.h3?? -3.94/19 **Bxf2+-+**
[17...Nxe5? 18.Nxe5 Rxe5 19.a4-+]
18.Kh1 Bxe1
[Don't blunder 18...Nxe5? 19.Rf1 Bg3 20.Nxe5 Bxe5 21.Qh5∓]
[Stronger than 18...Rxe5 19.Nf1 Re8 20.Qxd8 Rxd8 21.Re2∓]
19.Qxe1 Nxe5 20.Nxe5 Rxe5 21.Nf3 Re6 22.h4 f6? -1.11/19
[22...Nd7-+ -4.71/18 has better winning chances. 23.Rd1 gxh4]
23.hxg5 -2.35/18
[23.Bb3∓ -1.11/19 Qe8 24.Nd4]
23...hxg5
[Weaker is 23...fxg5 24.Bb3 Qe8 25.Nd4∓]
24.Nd4? -4.32/19
[24.Bb3 -1.63/19 is the only way for White. Qe7 25.Nd4]
24...Re8 25.Nf5 Nc6? -0.90/21
[25...Qd7-+ -3.74/19 and Black stays clearly on top. 26.Kg1 Nc6 27.Nh6+ Kh7]
26.Nh6+? -4.22/19
[26.Rd1∓ -0.90/21 Qc8 27.Bb3+ Kh8 28.Qg3]

26...Kg7 27.Nf5+ Kh7 -1.71/20
[⌓27...Kg6 -4.11/18 28.Rd1 Qc8]
28.g4? -5.70/19
[28.Rd1 -1.71/20 is more resistant. Ne5 29.Rxd8 Raxd8 30.Qg3]
28...Kg8 29.Nh6+ -5.60/19
[29.Bb3+ -3.95/19 might work better. Kh7 30.Kg2]
29...Kh7? 0.01/18
[29...Kg7-+ -5.60/19 30.Nf5+ Kg6]
30.Nf5!= Ne5 31.Kg2 Qd7? -0.90/19
[31...Kg6-+ -5.45/16 is more deadly. 32.Rd1 Qb8]
32.Qh1+ -2.40/5
[32.Rd1∓ -0.90/19 Qxd1 33.Qxd1]
32...Kg6?? #1/6
[32...Kg8-+ -2.40/5 33.Kg3 Rad8 34.Nh6+ Kh8 35.Nf5+ Qh7]
33.Qh6+? 3.23/5
[33.Qh5# #1/6 mates]
33...Kf7+-



And now ...Qd2+ would win. **34.Qg7+! Ke6**

(Diagram)



35.Bb3+? 0.01/21
[35.Nd4+!+- 3.60/22 Qxd4 36.cxd4]
35...Bd5? #9/19 **36.exd5+** Weighted Error Value: White=1.21/Black=1.71
1-0

238 **C65**
□ **Lagno,Kateryna** **2560**
■ **Aronian,Levon** **2745**
Astana Satty Zhuldyz Blitz (20) 25.04.23
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 C65: Partie espagnole (défense berlinoise) **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.d4** 8.Na3 is a critical line. 8.Sa3 ist die kritische Fortsetzung. **8...Qe7** 0.51/18 A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
[Better is 8...0-0= 0.01/18 9.Bg5 *(9.dxe5 Nxe4 10.Nd2 Nxd2 11.Bxd2 d6 12.exd6 Qxd6 13.a4 Rd8 14.Bg5 Bxf2+ 15.Kxf2 Qb6+ 16.Be3 Rxd1 17.Bxb6 Rxf1+ 18.Bxf1 axb6 19.b4 Kf8 20.g3 Be6*

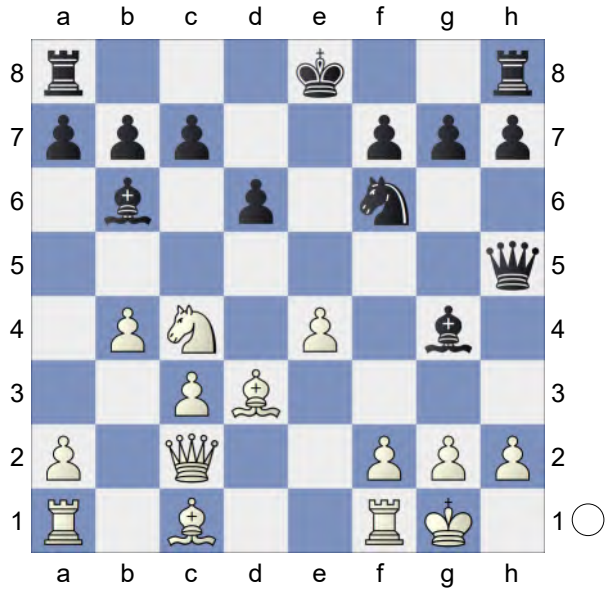
21.Bg2 c6 22.Ke3 Ke7 23.Be4 h6 1-0 Deepan Chakkravarthy,J (2446)-Dhananjay,S (2133) IND-ch 60th Pune 2023 (5)*)* 9...h6 10.dxe5 hxg5 11.exf6 Qxf6 12.Nd2 a6 13.Bd3 d6 14.Nc4 Ba7 15.Ne3 Bxe3 16.fxe3 Qe5 17.Qh5 Be6 18.a4 Rae8 19.Rf2 g4 20.Qxe5 dxe5 21.Bc2 Rd8 22.Kf1 Rd6 23.Ke1 Rfd8 1-0 Sturua,Z (2530)-Sargissian,G (2630) (7eme open) Dubai 2005 (5)]

9.dxe5N -0.01/20

[9.Nd2± 0.51/18 0-0 10.Nc4 Nxe4 11.Re1 d5 12.Nxb6 axb6 13.f3 Nd6 14.Rxe5 Be6 15.Bd3 f6 16.Re1 Qd7 17.Bf4 Rfe8 18.g4 Guerra,J (2550)-Mi,G (2439) USSR 21/(434) 1976]

9...Qxe5= 10.Bd3 d5N

[Predecessor: 10...d6 0.20/18 10...d7-d5 -0.18 11.Nd2! Bg4 12.Qc2 Qh5 13.Nc4 Bc5 1.15/19 *(13...Be6± 0.56/18)* 14.b4± Bb6 2.01/19 *(14...b5± 1.17/19)*



15.a4!+- Threatens to win with a4-a5. a6 16.Nxb6 cxb6 17.Be3 0-0 18.Bxb6 1-0 (41) Hoang,P-Anaya,A Tornelo INT 2021]

11.exd5 0-0 12.Qf3 Bg4 13.Qg3 Qxg3

[13...Qxd5 feels hotter. 14.Na3 Rfe8 15.Bc4 Qh5]

14.hxg3 Nxd5 15.a4 Rad8 16.a5 Bc5 17.Ra4 -0.83/21

[17.a6= -0.24/19 bxa6 18.Bxa6]

17...h5 -0.45/19

[17...Nf6∓ -0.83/21 18.Bc2 Rfe8]

18.Rc4 -1.38/20 White is now going downhill.

[18.Bc2∓ -0.45/19]

18...b6∓ 19.Re1 Nf6 20.Bf1 -1.93/21

[20.b4∓ -1.43/22]

20...Rfe8-+ 21.Be3 -3.48/21

[21.Rxe8+ -2.00/23 was forced. Rxe8 22.Be3]

21...Bxe3 -2.03/22

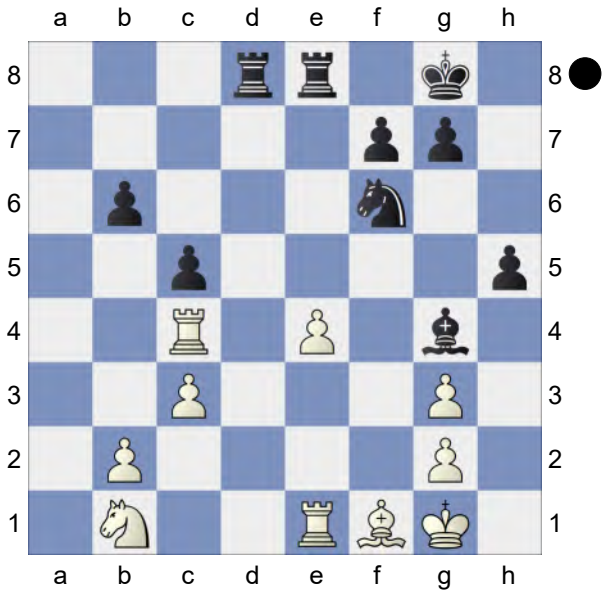
[⌓21...Nd5 -3.48/21 22.Bd2 Rxe1 23.Bxe1 Nf6]

22.fxe3 c5

[22...bxa5 23.Rxc7 Rb8 24.b3∓]

23.axb6 axb6 24.e4? -4.23/23

[24.Ra4 -2.04/20 is a better defense.]



24...Bd1 25.e5 Ng4 -1.85/22

[⌓25...g5 -3.98/20 26.Kf2 Ng4+

27.Kg1 Bc2 *(27...Nxe5 28.Rce4∓; 27...Rxe5? 28.Rxe5* Remove Defender *Nxe5 29.Re4-+)* 28.Rxg4 hxg4]

26.Rce4 -2.68/21

[⌓26.Na3 -1.85/22]

26...Bc2 27.R4e2 Bxb1 28.Rxb1 Rxe5

[Don't do 28...Nxe5 29.b4]

29.Rxe5 Nxe5 Endgame KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **30.b4** -2.49/23

[⌓30.Be2 -1.88/20]

30...c4 31.Re1 f6 Threatens to win with ...Rd8-d2. **32.b5?** -4.11/21

[32.Be2 -1.69/20]

32...Kf7 33.Re4 -4.24/23

[⌓33.Be2 -2.99/21]

33...Rc8 34.Rd4 Ke7 Dodges Rd4-d6 **35.Be2 g6 36.Rd5 Ra8 37.Kf2 Ra3** Black is clearly winning. **38.Rd2 Rxc3 39.Ra2 Rb3 40.Ra7+ Ke6 41.Rc7 Rxb5 42.Rxc4** -9.17/22

[⌓42.Bxc4+ -4.33/19 Nxc4 43.Rxc4]

42...Nxc4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.63/Black=0.37

0-1

239 **C65**

□ **Vasquez Schroder,Rodrigo Rafael**

■ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2803**

Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early b..

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Mikhalevski, Victor: '0-7. h3?! is dubious due to Rg8! Nbd2 has to be preferred. 0-' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]

6...Qe7 7.Be3

[7.h3 Rg8 8.Kh1 Nh5 9.c3 g5 10.Nxe5 g4 11.d4 Bd6 12.g3 Bxe5 13.dxe5 Qxe5 14.Qd4 Qe7 15.h4 c5 16.Qc4 Be6 17.Qb5+ c6 18.Qa4 f5 19.Bg5 Rxg5 20.hxg5 f4 21.Qd1 Rd8 Aronian,L (2794)-Kramnik,V (2800) Berlin 2018 [Tasic,Vladimir] 0-1 (31)]

[7.Nbd2 Bg4 8.h3 Bh5 9.a3 *(9.Nc4 Nd7 10.a3 a6 11.b4 Ba7 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.Nxe3 f6 14.Nf5 Qf8 15.Ng3 Bf7 16.Qd2 g6 17.Nh2 h5 18.f4 exf4 19.Qxf4 0-0-0 20.e5 f5 21.Nf3 Qe7* 0-1 So,W (2741)-Carlsen, M (2881) Lindores Abbey Rapid Challenge Final 8 2020 (2.4)*)* 9...a5 10.Nc4 Nd7 11.g4 Bg6 12.b4 Bb6 13.Bd2 *(13.bxa5 Bxa5 14.Bb2 f6 15.Nxa5 Rxa5 16.Nh4 0-0 17.Nf5 Qe6 18.Kh2 c5 19.h4 c4 20.h5 Bf7 21.Rg1 cxd3 22.cxd3 Rb5 23.Bc1 Kh8 24.Be3 Rb3 25.Rg3 c5 26.Qe2 g5 27.hxg6 Bxg6* Caruana,F-Kramnik, V Tal Memorial, Moscow 2012 Fighting Chess MBM [Colin Crouch] 1-0 (45) *)* 13...axb4 14.axb4 0-0 15.Qe2 Rfe8 16.Kh2 f6 17.Nh4 Nf8 18.Nxb6 cxb6 19.Qe3 c5 20.Nf5 Qc7 21.bxc5 bxc5 Chernov,V (2658)-Pasini,N (2635) Amsterdam 2023 Steinitz/Blackburne [John Watson] 1-0]

7...Bd6N A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

[7...Bg4 8.Nbd2 Nd7 9.h3 Bh5 10.Qe1 0-0-0 11.a3 Kb8 12.b4 Bxe3 13.fxe3 g5 14.Qg3 f6 15.Rf2 Rdg8 16.Raf1 g4 17.Nh4 gxh3 18.Qxh3 Bg4 19.Nf5 Bxf5 20.Rxf5 h5 21.Rxh5 Rxh5 22.Qxh5 Model Games-Petrosian,T (43)]

8.h3 The position is equal. **8...h6 9.Nc3 c5** 0.26/27

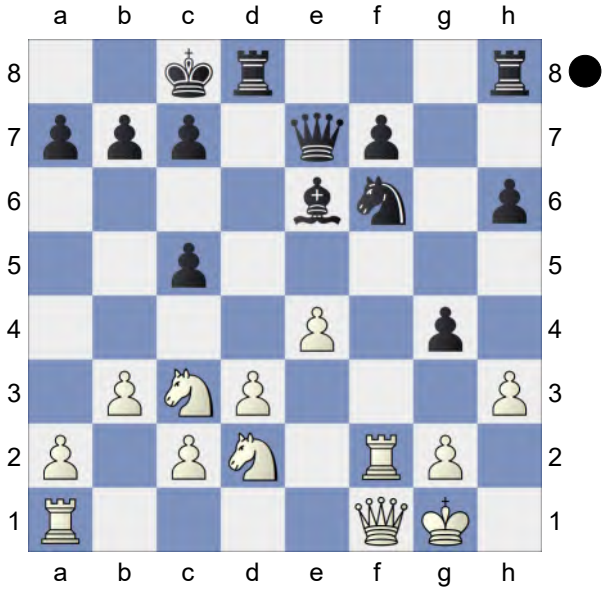
[⌓9...Be6 -0.15/21]

10.Nd2 Be6 11.f4 -0.07/20

[11.Nc4± 0.40/18]

11...exf4= 12.Bxf4 Bxf4 13.Rxf4 0-0-0 14.Qf3N

[14.b3 -0.50/26 14.Qf3 0.00 g5! 15.Rf2 g4 Against Qf3 Prevents Qd1-f3 16.Qf1



Nh5 -0.25/26 *(16...Nd7!∓ -0.70/22* And now ...g4xh3 would win. *17.Nd5 Bxd5 18.exd5 gxh3)* 17.hxg4!= Ng3 18.Qe1 Hoping for Rf4. Hoping for Rf2-f4. h5

A) 19.Rf4!= 0.00/22 is superior. h4 *(19...Qh4 20.Rf3 hxg4 21.Rxg3)* 20.Qe3;

B) 19.Rf3 -0.50/21 19...h4∓ 20.Qf2 -1.55/24 ;1-0 Hansen,E (2606)-Van Foreest,J (2714) Oslo Esports Cup rapid 2022 (2.3) *(20.Nd5!∓ -0.55/24 Bxd5 21.exd5 Ne2+ 22.Kh1)*]

14...Nd7 Strongly threatening ...g5.

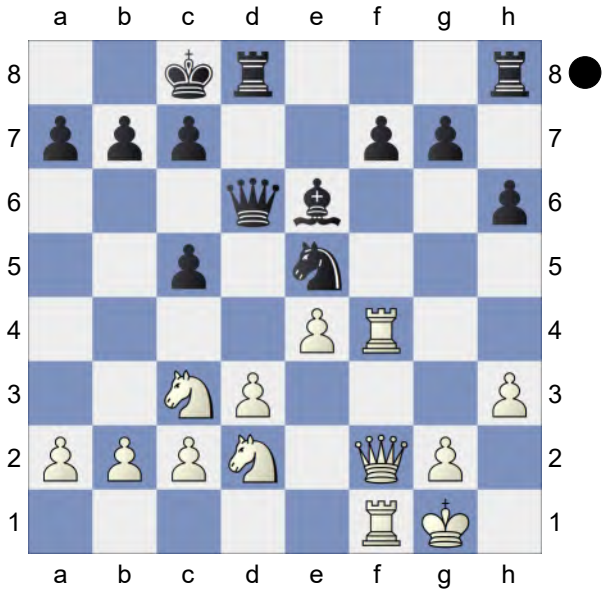
15.Qg3 Qd6 16.Raf1 Ne5 0.16/24

[16...g5 -0.16/26 should be considered. 17.R4f3 Qxg3 18.Rxg3 b6]

17.Qf2 -0.84/20

[But not 17.Qxg7 Qd4+ 18.Kh1 Nxd3! 19.Qxd4 cxd4 20.cxd3 dxc3∓ 21.bxc3 Rxd3∓ *(21...Bxa2 22.Ra1±)*]

[17.R4f2= 0.16/24]



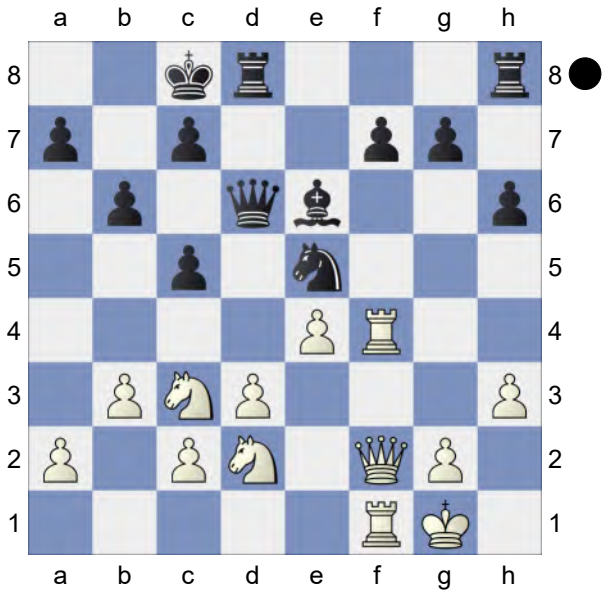
17...b6 -0.18/23 &Nero is more active. Black is more active.

[Better is 17...g5!∓ -0.84/20 18.Rf6 Kb8 *(18...g4)*]

18.b3 -1.14/24

[18.Qg3= -0.18/23]

[18.a4= -0.19/17 keeps the balance.]



18...Kb7 -0.16/26

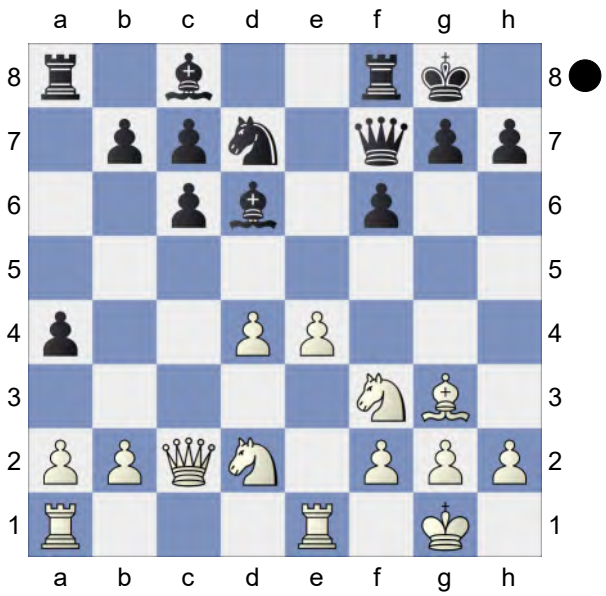
[Black should play Better is 18...g5!∓ -1.14/24 19.Rf6 g4 *(19...Qd4*

20.Qxd4 cxd4)]
19.Nc4= Nxc4 20.bxc4 Qe5 21.Nd5 h5 22.a4 a5 23.Kh1 f6 24.Rf3 Bd7 0.25/25
[24...Rhe8 -0.21/25 deserves consideration.]
25.c3
[25.Rb1!? simplifies Ka7 26.Qg3 Qxg3 27.Rxg3 Rh7 28.Nxc7 Bxa4 29.Rb2]
25...Bxa4 Black wants to play ...Ba4-b3.
26.d4 -0.40/20
[26.Rb1= -0.01/21]
26...cxd4!∓
[26...Qxe4 27.Re3 Qc2 28.Qf3+-]
27.cxd4 -1.07/22
[27.Ra1!= -0.05/25 keeps the balance.]
27...Qxe4∓ aiming for ...Qc2. **28.Re3?** -5.00/19
[28.Ra1∓ -0.97/25 is tougher. Qc2 29.Qf1]
[28.Rc1∓ -1.15/21]
28...Qxd4-+ Black is clearly winning.
29.Qg3 -6.94/21
[⌓29.Re7 -4.91/22 Qxf2 30.Rxf2]
[⌓29.Rb1 -4.88/19 Qc5 *(29...Qxc4 30.Rxb6+ cxb6 31.Re7+ Bd7 32.Qxb6+ Kc8 33.Qxa5±)* 30.Qg3]
29...Qxc4 30.Re7 Rxd5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.70/Black=0.15 (very precise) Weighted Error Value: White=0.73/Black=0.16 (very precise)
0-1

240 **C65**
□ **Tomashevsky,E.** **2694**
■ **Goryachkina,A.** **2558**
76th ch-RUS 2023 (1.2) 01.10.2023
[Kitty Kat]

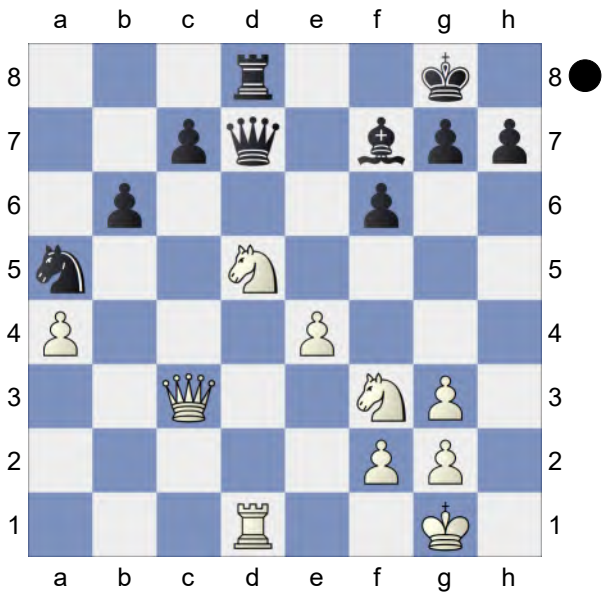
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Rf1 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.c3 0-0 8.d4 Bd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 a5 11.Nbd2 a4 12.Re1 Qe8 13.Bg3 Qf7 14.Qc2 exd4N
[14...Re8 15.b3 Nb6 16.c4 exd4 17.Bxd6 cxd6 18.Nxd4 axb3 19.axb3 Rxa1 20.Rxa1 Qc7 21.Nf1 Nd7 22.Ng3 Nc5 23.b4 Ne6 24.Ndf5 Ng5 25.h4 Nxe4 26.Nxe4 Bxf5 27.Nxf6+ gxf6 28.Qxf5 Qf7 29.Ra3 0-1 Skopec,L (2604)-8.♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2627) corr 1870 (1.2) Qe6 30.Qh5 Qd7 31.Qh6 Qf7 32.Qf4 d5 33.cxd5 cxd5 34.Rf3 Kg7 35.Rg3+ Kh8 36.Qd6 Qe6 37.Qc7 Qe7 38.Qb6 Qf7 39.Rf3 Kg7 40.b5 Re1+ 41.Kh2 Re4 42.g3 Re5 43.Rc3 Re7 44.Qd4 0-1 Sasikiran,K (2604)-Sadhwani,R (2627) ChessKid Play In m blitz 2023 (1.2)]
15.cxd4

(Diagram)



Bxg3 16.hxg3 Nb6 17.b4 a3 18.Re3 Ra4 1.00/22
[18...Re8± 0.58/20]
19.Rc3 Rxb4 20.Rxa3 Be6 21.Ra5 Nc4 22.Qc3 0.04/21
[22.Nxc4± 0.89/21 Rxc4 23.Qd2]
22...Nxa5= 23.Qxb4 b6 24.a4 Rd8 25.Qc3 Bg4 0.50/21
[25...Qe7= 0.01/21]
26.Ne1 0.01/23
[26.Re1± 0.50/21]
26...Qd7 27.Nc2 Be6 Wards off Nc4
28.Nf3 Bf7 0.50/24
[28...Qe7= 0.08/22]
29.Ne3 0.07/23
[29.e5± 0.50/24]
29...Bh5 30.d5 cxd5 0.73/21
[30...Bg6= 0.01/21]
31.Nxd5 0.33/22
[White should play 31.exd5± 0.73/21 Nb7 32.g4]
31...Bf7 32.Rd1

(Diagram)



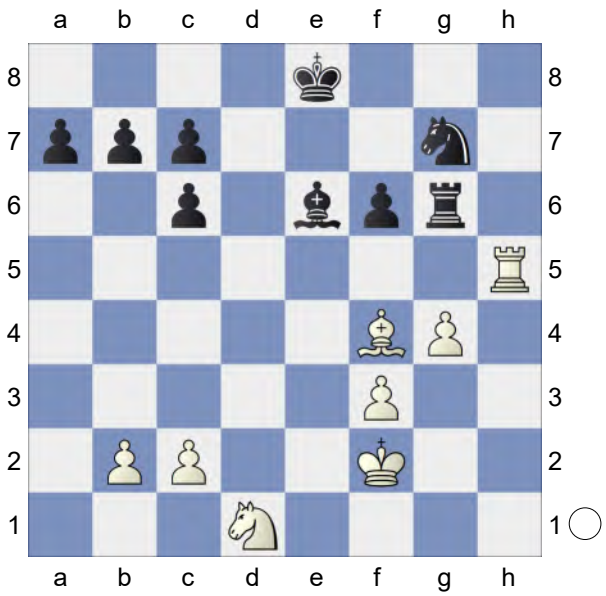
Bxd5 33.Rxd5 Qe7 34.Qd3 Rd6 35.Qa6 -0.01/23
[35.e5± 0.36/25 fxe5 36.Qe4 *(36.Nxe5? Qxe5-+* Pin *)*]
35...Rxd5 36.exd5 Endgame KQN-KQN
36...Qd7 Dodges Qc8+ **37.Nd4 Kf7 38.Qa7 g6 39.Nb5 Qxd5** 0.41/29
[39...Nc6!= 0.01/27 40.Qb7 *(40.dxc6 Qd1+ 41.Kh2 Qh5+ 42.Kg1 Qd1+ 43.Kh2 Qh5+ 44.Kg1 Qd1+=; 40.Qxc7 Qxc7 41.Nxc7 Ne5±)* 40...Qxd5]
40.Qxc7+± Kg8 41.f3 0.01/26
[41.Qd6± 0.45/25 is superior. Qxd6 42.Nxd6]
41...Qd2= The position is equal. **42.Qe7**
[42.Qc3 simplifies Qxc3 43.Nxc3 Kf7 44.Kf2]
42...Qc1+ 43.Kh2 Qh6+ 44.Kg1⇄ White is fighting back **44...Qc1+ 45.Kf2 Qc2+**
[45...Nc4 keeps more tension. 46.Qe8+ Kg7 47.Qd7+ Kf8]
46.Qe2 Qxe2+ 47.Kxe2 Kf7 48.Kd3 Threatens to win with Nc7. **48...Ke6 49.Kc3 f5 50.Kb4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /

Black=0.11 (very precise) **50...Ke5**
½-½

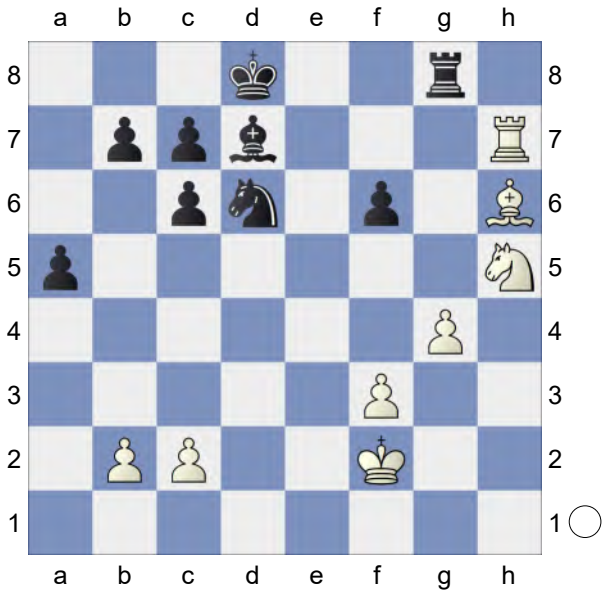
241 **C67**
□ **HungryDragon21** **3325**
■ **WhiteNinja21** **2608**
Blitz 08.10.2020
[Kitty Kat]

Blitz 3min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.h3 h5 11.Bf4 Be7 12.Rad1 Be6** White is slightly better. **13.Ng5 Rh6 14.g3 Bxg5 15.Bxg5 Rg6 16.h4 f6 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Bf4 Nxh4 19.f3 Rd8** 0.55/21
[19...Rc8= 0.20/18]
20.Kf2!±
[Much weaker is 20.Bxc7 Rxd1 21.Rxd1 Nxf3+ 22.Kf2 Nh2∓]
20...Rxd1 21.Nxd1 Nf5 22.Rh1 Bxa2 23.Rxh5 Be6N 24.g4 0.29/20
[24.Bxc7± 0.62/20 Rh6 25.Rxh6 Nxh6 26.g4]
24...Ng7 0.76/22
[24...Nd6= 0.29/20]

(Diagram)



25.Rh8+!± White has strong compensation. **25...Kd7 26.Ne3** 0.12/22 &Bianco is more active.
[26.Rb8± 0.78/22]
26...Ne8= 27.Bh6 a5 28.Ng2 Strongly threatening Rh7+. **28...Rg8 29.Rh7+ Kd8 30.Nf4 Bd7 31.Nh5 Nd6?** 7.70/23
[31...b6= 0.24/22]

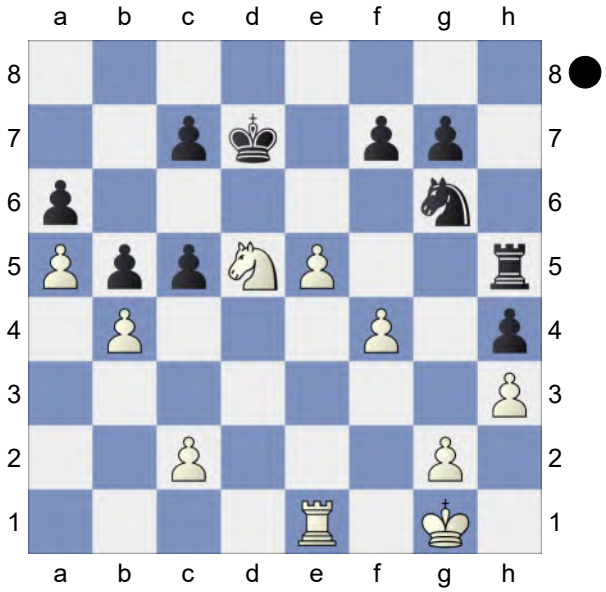


32.Bf4? 0.39/23
[32.Nxf6+- 7.70/23 Rg6 33.Nxd7 Rxh6 34.Rxh6 Kxd7 35.Rh7+ Ke8

36.Rxc7]
32...Nb5? 7.83/23
[32...Ne8± 0.39/23]
33.Nxf6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.39/Black=0.14 (very precise)
1-0

242 **C67**
□ **Vitiugov,Nikita** **2720**
■ **Karjakin,Sergey** **2752**
73rd ch-RUS 2020 (3.1) 07.12.2020
[Kitty Kat]

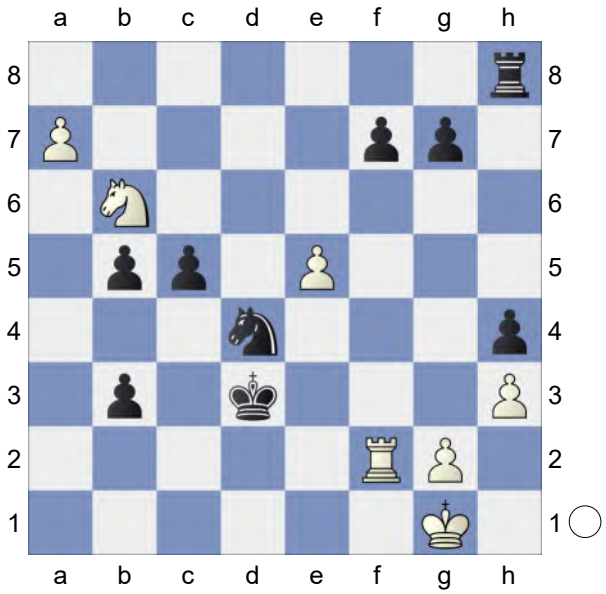
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Rd1+ Ke8 10.Nc3 Ne7 11.a4**
[11.Nd4 Bg4 12.f3 Bd7 13.Ne4 Rd8 14.Bg5 b6 15.Re1 Rg8 16.a4 Rc8 17.Rad1 a6 18.a5 c5 19.Ne2 Nf5 20.Nf4 Be6 21.axb6 cxb6 22.Nd5 Bxd5 23.Rxd5 Nd4 24.c3 Ne6 25.Red1 Nxg5 ½-½ Hanke,L (2763)-10. ♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2785) CRO-ch Zagreb 2004 (1)]
11...Ng6 12.a5 a6N
[12...Bg4 13.Ra4 Bxf3 14.gxf3 Be7 15.f4 Rd8 16.Rxd8+ Kxd8 17.Be3 a6 18.Ne4 Kc8 19.Kf1 Rd8 20.Ke2 Rd5 21.Nc3 Rd8 22.Ne4 Rd5 23.Nc3 Rd8 24.Ne4 ½-½ Marosi,G (2758)-Grube,J (2764) Hoogovens op 1995]
13.h3 White is slightly better. **13...Be7 14.Be3 h5 15.Re1 h4 16.Bg5 Rh5 17.Bxe7 Kxe7 18.Ra4 b5 19.Rd4 Be6 20.b4 Kf8 21.Rdd1** 0.01/23
[White should try 21.Ne4± 0.55/24]
21...Re8= 22.Nd4 c5 23.Nxe6+ Rxe6 24.Rd8+ -0.84/26
[24.bxc5 Rhxe5 25.Rxe5 Nxe5 *(25...Rxe5 26.Nd5∓)*]
[24.Nd5= -0.01/25 Rhxe5 25.Rxe5 Nxe5 26.bxc5 *(26.Nxc7 Rc6=)*]
24...Re8 -0.21/26
[Better is 24...Ke7∓ -0.84/26 25.Red1 *(25.Rc8? Kd7∓)* 25...Rc6 *(25...Rexe5 26.R8d7+ Ke8 27.Rxc7±; 25...Nxe5 26.bxc5 b4 27.Na4±)*]
25.Rxe8+ Kxe8 Endgame KRN-KRN
26.Nd5
[26.bxc5? Rxe5 27.Rxe5+ Nxe5-+]
26...Kd7 27.f4 -1.07/25
[27.Rd1= -0.01/26 keeps the balance. Kc6 *(27...Nxe5? 28.Nf6+ Kc6 29.Nxh5+-; 27...Rxe5? 28.f4+-)* 28.f4]



27...c6!∓
[27...cxb4?! 28.Rd1 Kc6 *(28...Kc8 29.Kf2=)* 29.Kh2= *(29.Nxb4+ Kb7=)*]
28.Nb6+ Ke7
[28...Ke6 29.Na8 Nxf4 30.Nc7+ Kf5 31.Rf1∓]
29.Nc8+
[29.bxc5? Nxf4 30.Re4 Ne6 31.Nc8+ Kd7 32.Nb6+ Ke8-+ *(32...Kc7? 33.c4-+)*]

29...Ke6 White does not recover from this. **30.Nd6?** -5.26/26
[30.Re4? Rf5 31.bxc5 Rxf4 *(31...Nxf4 32.Nd6∓)* 32.Rxf4 Nxf4-+]
[30.Na7∓ -1.11/24]
30...Nxf4-+ 31.Ne4 -6.14/23
[⌓31.Ne8 -3.89/21 Rg5 *(31...Rxe5? 32.Nc7+ Kf5 33.Rxe5+ Kxe5 34.bxc5-+)* 32.Kh1 Rxg2 *(32...Nxg2? 33.Rg1-+)* 33.Nc7+ Kf5 34.Nxa6]
31...cxb4 Black is clearly winning.
[31...Kxe5? 32.Ng3+ Kd4 33.Nxh5 Nxh5 34.Re7±]
32.Nc5+ Kd5 33.Nxa6 c5
[33...Rxe5 34.Nxb4+ Ke6 35.Rxe5+ Kxe5 36.Nd3+ Kd6 *(36...Nxd3? 37.a6+-)* 37.Nxf4+-]
34.Rd1+ Kc4!
[34...Kxe5 35.Nxc5 Rg5 36.g4 Nxh3+ *(36...hxg3 37.a6+-)* 37.Kg2±]
35.Nc7 Ne6
[35...Rxe5? 36.a6 Ne6 37.Ne8+-]
[Less strong is 35...Ne2+ 36.Kh2=]
36.Nd5 -7.35/23
[⌓36.Nxe6 -4.70/21 fxe6 37.a6]
36...Nd4
[36...Rxe5? 37.Nb6+ Kc3 38.a6-+]
37.Nb6+ Kc3 38.a6 Kxc2 39.a7 Rh8!
[39...Kxd1? 40.a8Q Rxe5 41.Nd7 Re1+ 42.Kh2+-]
40.Rf1 b3
[40...Rf8 41.Rxf7 *(41.a8B?* loses. *Re8-+; 41.a8Q? Rxa8 42.Nxa8 b3-+)* 41...Rh8 *(41...Ne2+? 42.Kh2+-)* 42.a8Q± *(42.a8B Re8∓; 42.a8R Rxa8 43.Rf2+ Kc3=)*]
41.Rf2+ Kd3

(Diagram)

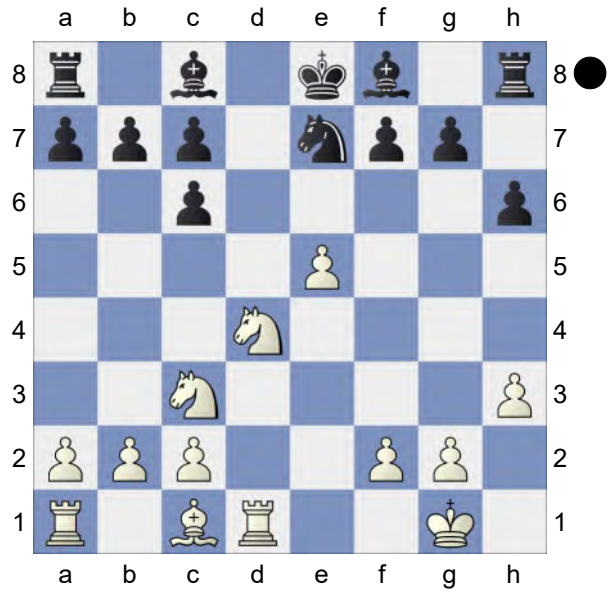


Strongly threatening ...c4. **42.Nd7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.66/ Black=0.14 (very precise) **42...Ra8**
0-1

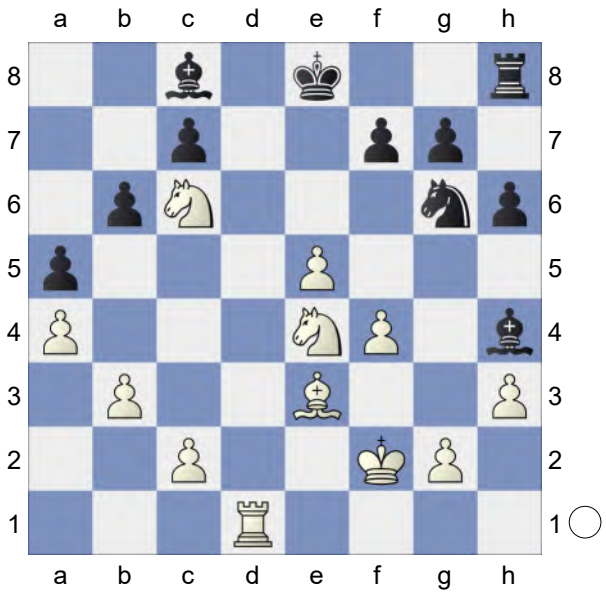
243 **C67**
□ **Garcia Pantoja,Roberto** **2527**
■ **Nguyen,Ngoc Truong Son** **2632**
Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Ne7 10.Rd1+** was the old line (10.Nc3). war die alte Variante (10.Sc3). **10...Ke8 11.Nc3 h6 12.Nd4**
[12.b3 Bf5 13.Nd4 Bh7 14.Bb2 Rd8 15.Nce2 Nd5 16.c4 Nb4 17.Nf4 Rg8 18.g4 Na6 19.Nf5 Nc5 20.Rxd8+ Kxd8 21.Rd1+ Kc8 22.Ba3 Ne6 23.Nxe6 Bxa3 24.Nexg7 Bf8 25.e6 Bxf5 26.Nxf5 fxe6 Caruana,F (2805)-Carlsen,M (2876) 2015 [Flores Rios,Mauricio] 1-0 (45)]

[12.Bf4 Ng6 13.Bh2 Bb4 14.Nd4 Bxc3 15.bxc3 Bd7 16.c4 Nf8 17.f4 c5 18.Nb5 Ne6 19.f5 Bxb5 20.cxb5 Nd4 21.f6 Rg8 22.a4 Rd8 23.Kh1 Nxc2 24.Rxd8+ Kxd8 25.Rc1 Nd4 26.Rxc5 Ne6 Salemgareev,T (2465)-Afanasiev,N (2537) Satka 2023 ½-½ (41)]



And now Ndb5! would win. **12...Ng6**
13.Ne4N
[13.f4 h5 *(13...Bc5 14.Be3 h5 15.Ne4 Bxd4 16.Rxd4 h4 17.Rad1 Bf5 18.e6 Bxe6 19.Nc5 Rh5 20.Nxb7 Rd5 21.b3 Rb8 22.Rxd5 cxd5 23.Nc5 c6 24.Rd4 Bc8 25.Ra4 Ra8 26.c4 dxc4 27.Rxc4 Bf5 28.Nb7* Vachier Lagrave,M (2731)-Topalov,V (2816) Saint Louis 125/100 2015 [Stamenkovic,Zoran] 1-0 (38) *Kd7 29.Rd4+ Kc7 30.Nd6 Bb1 31.Nxf7 Re8 32.Kf2 Bxa2 33.f5 Nf8 34.Ra4 Bxb3 35.Rxa7+ Kb8 36.Nd6 Rd8 37.Rxg7* Chapter C50-Games Game 9 (37)*)* 14.Be3 a6 15.Ne4 Be7 16.Rd2 h4 17.Rad1 Rh5 18.a3 Nxe5 19.Re2 Nc4 20.Rde1 Nxe3 21.Rxe3 Be6 22.Nf2 Bf6 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Rxe6+ Kf7 25.Nd3 Rb5 26.a4 Rd5 27.R6e4 Rad8 Kavalek,L (2559)-Ciocaltea,V (2722) C) 5...d5 2010 The Benko Gambit: MBM [Westminster Papers xi Feb 1879 p221] ½-½ (60)]
13...Be7 14.f4 The position is equal.
14...Bd7N
[14...h5 15.Rd3 -0.14/25 *(⌓15.a4* 0.25/26 *)* 15...Bd7 16.Bd2 c5 17.Nf3 Bf5 18.Re1 b6 19.c4 ½-½ Sakaev,K (2635)-Kharlov,A (2501) Zvenigorod Autumn op-A 2008 (4)]
15.Be3 Rd8 16.a4 a5 17.b3 b6 18.Kf2 &Bianco is much more active.
18...Bc8 1.66/26 This move loses the game for Black.
[Black should play 18...h5!± 0.43/24]
19.Nxc6+- Rxd1 20.Rxd1 Bh4+

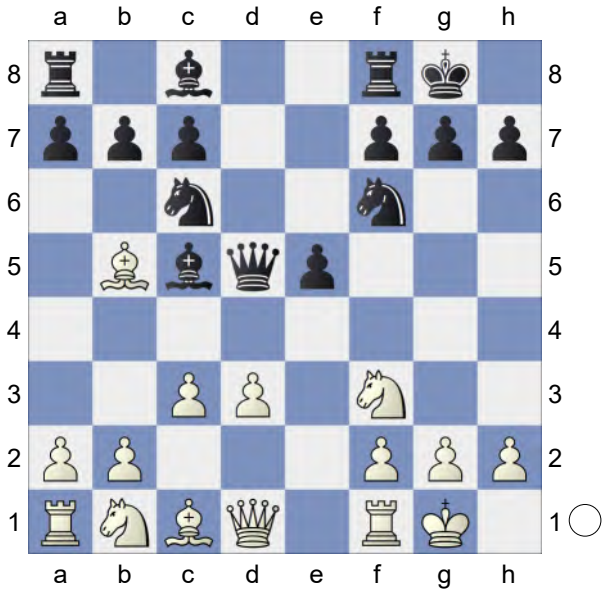


21.Kf3! Nf6+! is the strong threat.
21...Bb7 22.Nd4 Pair of Knights!
22...Bd8 aiming for ...Nh4+. **23.g3** Against Nh4+ **23...Ne7 24.c4 f5?** 5.07/22
[24...h5 1.79/23 25.Bc1 Kd7]
25.exf6 White is clearly winning.
25...gxf6 White must now prevent ...f5.
26.f5 c5 7.17/25

[⌓26...Nc8 4.23/25 27.Bf4 Ke7]
27.Ne6 Nc6 28.Nd6+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) / Black=0.53
1-0

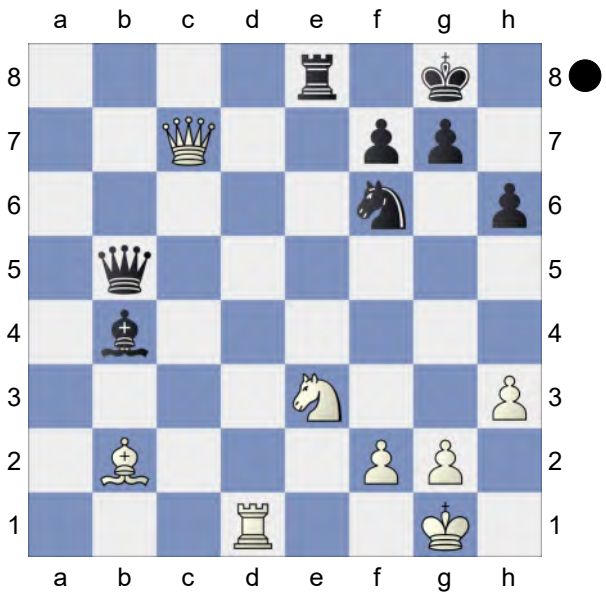
244 **C65**
□ **Ivanchuk,Vassily** **2647**
■ **Kobalia,Mihail** **2522**
Wch Rapid New York (4) 26.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.exd5 Qxd5**



8.Bc4 White has an edge. **8...Qd8 9.Nbd2 h6 10.b4 Bd6 11.Re1 Re8 12.a4 Be6N**
[12...Bf5 13.Ne4 *(13.Qb3 Qd7 14.Ne4 Nxe4 15.dxe4 Be6 16.Be3 a6 17.Rad1 b5 18.Bxe6 Qxe6 19.Qxe6 Rxe6 20.axb5 axb5 21.Rd5 Rb8 22.Ra1 Kf8 23.Nd2 Ree8 24.Nb3 Ra8 25.Rxb5 Rxa1+ 26.Nxa1 Ra8 27.Nc2 Ra2* ½-½ Movahed,S (2518)-Aleksandrov, A (2425) Yerevan op-A 6th 2024 (7)*)* 13...Be6 14.Bxe6 Rxe6 15.b5 Nb8 16.Nxd6 cxd6 17.c4 Nbd7 18.Ba3 Qc7 19.Rc1 Nc5 20.d4 exd4 21.Rxe6 fxe6 22.Nxd4 Re8 23.Qc2 Qf7 24.Rd1 Rc8 25.f3 Nfd7 26.Ne2 Qe7 27.Bb2 1-0 Schmittdiel,E (2430)-Marangunic,S (2450) Dortmund-A 1987 Ne5 28.Bxe5 dxe5 29.a5 Rd8 30.g3 Qc7 31.Rxd8+ Qxd8 32.Qc3 e4 33.Kf2 exf3 34.Kxf3 b6 35.a6 Qa8+ 36.Ke3 Qe4+ 37.Kd2 e5 38.h4 Kf7 39.Qe3 Qxc4 40.Qxe5 Qd3+ 41.Ke1 Qb1+ 42.Kd2 ½-½ Sjugirov,S (2610)-Bacrot,E (2706) EU-ch 13th Plovdiv 2012 (11)]
13.Qc2 a6 14.Bb2 Bxc4 15.Nxc4 b5 16.Ne3 Qd7 17.h3 Rad8 18.Rad1 Bf8 19.Bc1 Re6 20.axb5 axb5 21.d4 exd4
[21...Nd5 22.dxe5 Nxe5 23.Qe4 Nxf3+ 24.Qxf3 Qc6]
22.Nxd4 Nxd4 23.Rxd4 Qe8 24.Rxd8 Qxd8 25.Rd1 Qe8 26.c4 Bxb4
[26...Bd6 27.c5 Bf4 28.Rd4 Bxe3 29.Bxe3 c6]
27.cxb5 Qxb5 28.Qxc7 Re8 29.Bb2
[29.Qc4 Qxc4 30.Nxc4 Bc5 31.Be3]

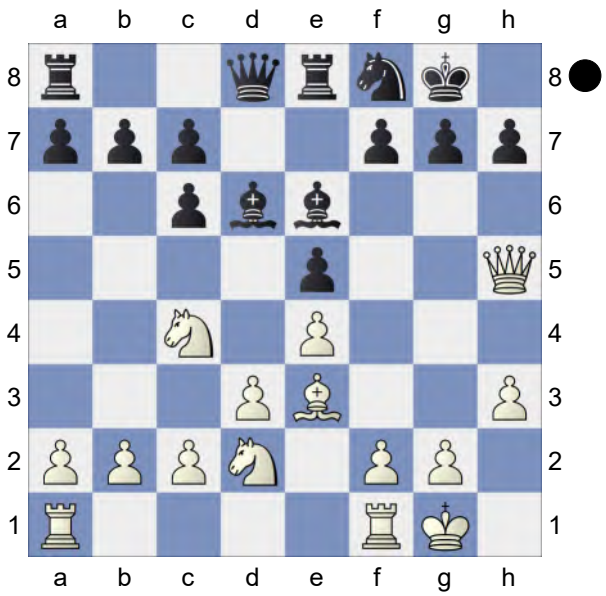
(Diagram)



Strongly threatening Bb2xf6. **29...Bd6!** Discovered Attack **30.Qc2**
[30.Qxd6 simplifies Qxb2 31.Qd2 Qxd2 32.Rxd2 Ra8 33.Nf1]
[30.Rxd6 Qxb2]
30...Be5 31.Bc1 Bb8 32.Qc4 Qxc4
[32...Qe5 looks sharper. 33.Nf1 Ba7 34.Be3 Bxe3 35.Nxe3 g6]
33.Nxc4 Rc8 34.Nb6 Re8 35.Kf1 Ba7 36.Nc4 Ne4 37.Be3 Bxe3 38.Nxe3= Endgame KRN-KRN **38...h5 39.Rd3 Ra8 40.Nc2 Ra2 41.Rd8+ Kh7 42.Rc8 Ra5 43.Ke2 Re5 44.Ne3** The position is equal. **44...Nd6 45.Rc7 g6 46.g4 hxg4 47.hxg4 Kg7 48.Kd3 Re6 49.f3 Nb5 50.Rc5 Rd6+ 51.Rd5 Kf6 52.Kc4 Rxd5 53.Nxd5+** KN-KN **53...Ke5** Threatens to win with ...Nb5-d6+. **54.f4+ Ke4 55.Nf6+ Kxf4 56.Kxb5 Kg5 57.Ng8 Kxg4 58.Nh6+ Kf4 59.Nxf7 g5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

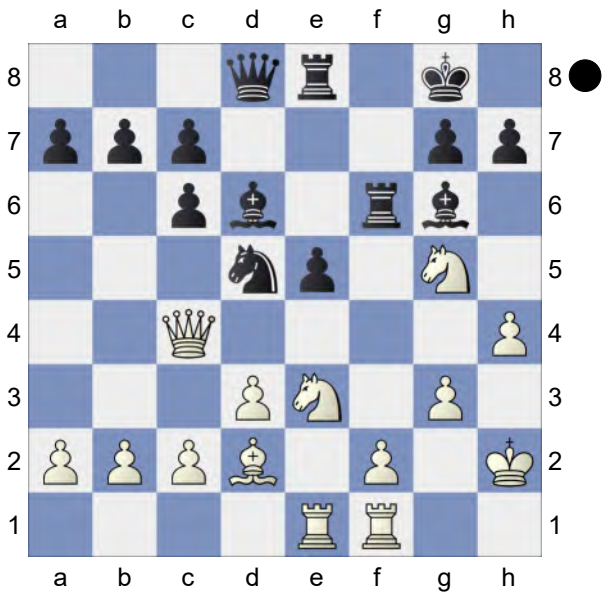
245 **C65**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2800**
■ **Predke,Alexandr** **2666**
150/132 Riga 2021
[Kitty Kat]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2
[5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Be6 *(6...0-0)*]
5...0-0
[5...d6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Bxc6 bxc6 8.h3]
[5...Nd4]
6.Bxc6
[6.0-0 Nd4]
6...dxc6
[6...bxc6 7.Nxe5]
7.Nc4 Nd7 8.Be3
[8.0-0 Re8 9.Bd2 *(9.Be3 Bf8 10.a4 c5 11.Qe1 b6 12.Kh1 Ba6 13.b3 Bd6 14.Nfd2 Nf8 15.Nxd6 cxd6 16.c4 Ne6; 9.a4 Bf8 10.Kh1 f6 11.Ng1 Nc5 12.b3 Ne6)* 9...Bd6 10.b4 Nf8 11.a4 f6]
8...Bd6
[8...f6 9.0-0 b6 10.Nh4 a5 11.Qg4 Bxe3 12.Nxe3 Nc5 13.Nef5 Bxf5 14.Nxf5 g6 15.h4 Kh8 16.Ne3]
9.0-0 Re8 10.Nfd2
[10.d4 exd4 11.Nxd6 cxd6 12.Qxd4 Qf6 *(12...Ne5 13.Nxe5 dxe5 14.Qxd8 Rxd8 15.Rfd1 Re8 16.a4)* 13.Nd2 Qxd4 14.Bxd4 c5 15.Be3 b6 16.Nc4 Ba6 17.Nxd6 Bxf1 18.Nxe8 Rxe8 19.Kxf1 Rxe4]
10...Nf8 11.Qh5
[11.Nxd6 cxd6 12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 Be6 *(13...Qb6+ 14.Kh1 d5)* 14.b3 Ng6 15.Bg3 Qd7 16.h3 f6]
11...Be6 12.h3 Diagram
[12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 Bxf4 14.Rxf4 b5]
[12.Nxd6 cxd6 13.f4 exf4 14.Rxf4]



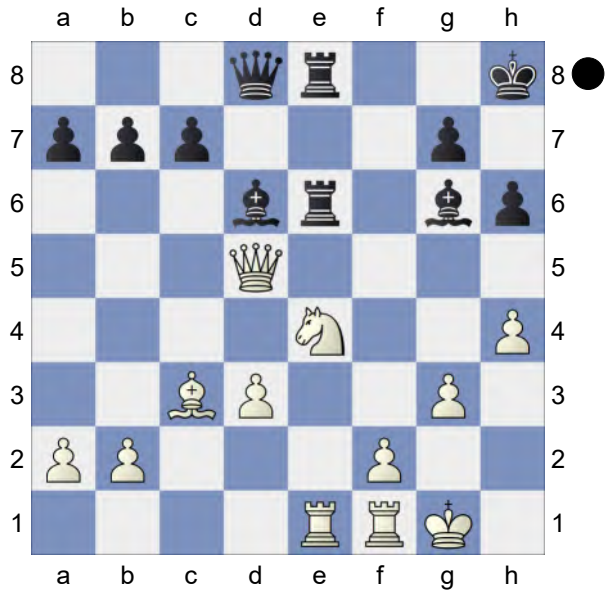
12...Ng6N 13.g3 Qd7 14.Kh2 f5
[14...Bf8 15.f4 exf4 16.gxf4 f5 17.Nf3 fxe4 18.Ng5 h6 19.Nxe4 Bxc4 20.Qxg6 Qe6 21.Qxe6+ Bxe6]
[14...c5 15.f4 exf4 16.gxf4 f5]
[14...b6]
[14...f6]
15.exf5 Bxf5 16.Ne4 Rf8 17.Rae1 Rae8
[17...Ne7 18.Bd2 Nd5 19.Ne3 Nxe3 20.Rxe3 b6]
18.Bd2
[18.Bxa7 Bb4 19.Re2 b6]
18...Ne7 19.Ne3!? Bg6 20.Qg4 Qd8
[20...Nf5 21.Bc3 Qf7 22.Nc4 Qd5]
21.Ng5 Rf6
[21...Nf5 22.Nxf5 *(22.Qc4+ Kh8 23.Ne6 Rxe6 24.Qxe6 Nd4)* 22...Rxf5 23.h4 Be7 24.f3 *(24.Ne4 Ref8)* 24...Qd7]
22.h4
[22.Qa4 Qb8 23.d4 exd4 24.Qxd4]
22...Nd5 23.Qc4 Diagram

(Diagram)



23...Kh8!
[23...Bf8 24.Ng4 *(24.f3 h6 25.Ne4 Rf7)* 24...Rf5 25.f3 Kh8 26.Qb3 b6 *(26...b5 27.a4)* 27.Qa4]
24.Nxd5 cxd5 25.Qxd5 e4
[25...c6 26.Qc4 b5 27.Qc3]
26.Kg1
[26.dxe4 h6 27.Bc3 *(27.Nh3 Rxe4 28.Rxe4 Bxg3+)* 27...hxg5 28.Qxg5 Rxe4 29.Bxf6 Qxf6 30.Qxf6 gxf6 31.Rxe4 Bxe4 32.c3 Bf3 33.Kh3 f5]
26...exd3! 27.cxd3
[27.Bc3 Rxe1 *(27...Rf5 28.Qd4 Rg8 29.cxd3)* 28.Rxe1
A) 28...c6 29.Bxf6 Qxf6 30.Qa5 h6 *(30...dxc2 31.h5 Bxh5 32.Ne4)* 31.h5 Bxh5 32.Ne4 Qe5 33.Qxe5 Bxe5 34.cxd3;
B) 28...dxc2 29.Bxf6 Qxf6 30.Qxb7 h6 31.Qc8+ Qf8 32.Qxf8+ Bxf8 33.Nf3 Be4 *(33...Kg8 34.Rc1)* 34.Nd4 c5 35.Nb3 *(35.Ne2 c4 36.Rc1 Bc5 37.Kf1 g6 38.Ke1 Bf5 39.Kd2 Bxf2 40.Rf1 Bb6)* 35...c4 36.Na1 Bb4 *(36...c3 37.bxc3 Ba3 38.Nxc2 Bxc2 39.c4)* 37.Rc1 Bd2 38.Rxc2 Bxc2 39.Nxc2]

27...h6
[27...c6 28.Qd4 h6 29.Ne4]
28.Ne4
[28.Rxe8+ Bxe8 29.Ne4 Bc6 30.Qh5 Re6 31.Bc3 Bf8 *(31...Qe8 32.Qg4)* 32.Re1]
28...Rfe6 29.Bc3?! Diagram
[29.Nxd6 Qxd6 *(29...Rxe1 30.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 31.Bxe1 Qxd6 32.Qxb7 Qxd3 33.Qxa7 Qb1)* 30.Qxb7 Bxd3 31.Rxe6 Rxe6 32.Rc1 Be4 33.Qb4 Qd7 34.Bf4 c6]



29...Bf8?! 30.Qb3
[30.Qxd8 Rxd8 31.Re3 Kg8 *(31...b6 32.Rfe1 Re7)*]
30...b6 31.Re3 Bc5 32.Rf3
[32.Nxc5 Rxe3 33.fxe3 Qd6 *(33...Rxe3 34.Bxg7+ Kxg7 35.Ne6+)* 34.Rf3 Qxc5 35.Kf2 Kh7]
32...Bd4
[32...Bxe4 33.dxe4 Rxe4 34.Rd1 Bd4 35.Rf7 *(35.Rfd3 c5)* 35...Qa8 *(35...c5)* 36.Kh2 c5]
33.Re1 c5 34.Rf4 Bxc3 35.Qxc3 Qd5 36.Qb3
[36.a3? Bxe4 37.Rf7?! Qe5 Xa5 38.Qxe5 Rxe5 39.dxe4 Rxe4 40.Rxe4 Rxe4 41.Rxa7 Re1+= 42.Kg2? Rb1]
[36.b3
A) 36...Bxe4 - 147/122 37.Rf7 Re5 *(37...Rg6 38.Rxa7)* 38.Rxe4;
B) 36...Re5∓]
36...c4 37.Qc3
[37.dxc4 Qa5=]
37...cxd3 38.f3 Bxe4
[38...Rc6 39.Qb4 *(39.Qd2 Rc2)* 39...d2∓ 40.Rd1 Rc1]
39.fxe4 Rxe4 40.Rexe4 Rxe4 41.Rf2
[41.Rxe4 Qxe4 42.Qd2∓ Kh7 43.Kf2 Kg6]
41...Re3 42.Kh2 Qe4 43.Qc8+ Kh7 44.Rf4
[44.Qf5+! Qxf5 45.Rxf5 Re2+]
44...Re2+ 45.Kh3 Qg2+ 46.Kg4 Qh5+∞ 47.Kxh5? Qxg3+-
½-½

246 **C65**
□ **Murzin,Volodar** **2623**
■ **Lysyj,Igor** **2589**
Julius Baer Play In rapid (1.62) 24.07.23
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.c3! is recently more successful than 7.Nbd2. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7.Sbd2. **7...0-0 8.d4 Bb6**
[8...Bd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 Qe8 11.Nbd2 Nb6 12.Bg3 exd4 13.Nxd4 Bxg3 14.hxg3 a5 15.Re1 a4 16.Qc2 Qf7 17.b3 c5 18.N4f3 Bg4 19.Nf1 Nd7 20.Ne3 Be6 21.c4 Nb8 22.bxa4 Nc6 23.Nd5 ½-½ Nguyen,T

(2649)-Martirosyan,H (2675) Jermuk Avagyan Memorial 2023 (2)]

9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4N

[Predecessor: 10.Be3 Re8 11.Qc2 Qe7 12.Nbd2 exd4 13.cxd4 Nf8 14.h3 Be6 15.b3 Rad8 16.Rad1 ½-½ Bernal Varela,N (2183)-Fric,L (2178) FICGS rapid M 000084 email 2016 (1)]

10...Qe7 0.27/28

[⌓10...Re8 -0.15/22]

11.Nbd2N

[11.Re1 Re8 12.Na3 Qf7 13.Qd3 exd4 14.cxd4 Nf8 15.Nc4 Bg4 16.Nfd2 Red8 17.Nxb6 axb6 18.Qc3 Ra4 19.e5 g5 20.Ne4 gxh4 21.Nxf6+ Kh8 22.Nxg4 Raxd4 23.Nf6 Ne6 24.Qh3 c5 25.Qf3 c6 1-0 Kotrc,J (2484)-Hruby,M (2299) Budapest SixDays 08 GM-A 2023 (7)]

11...exd4 12.cxd4 Re8 13.Re1

[13.Qc2 looks sharper. Nf8 14.e5 Ng6 15.exf6 gxf6 16.Rae1]

13...Qf7 14.Qc2 Nf8 15.a4 a5 16.Nc4 Bg4 17.Nxb6 cxb6 18.Nd2 Be6 Repels Nd2-c4 **19.f3 Ng6 20.Bf2 f5 21.b3 fxe4 22.fxe4 Nf4** 0.92/23

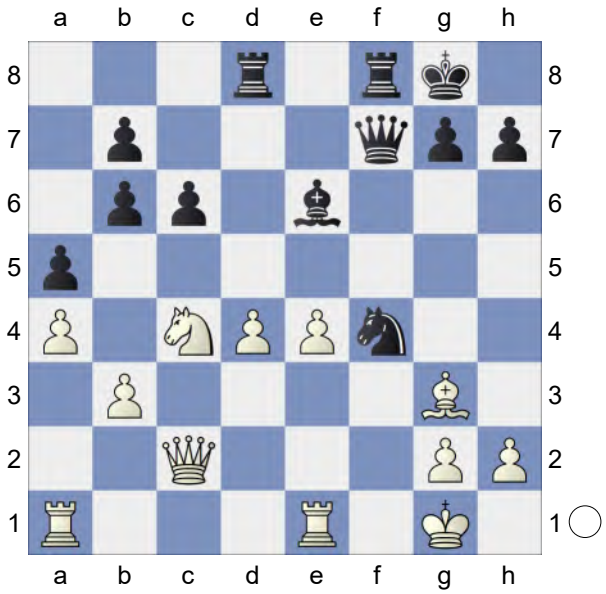
[22...Rf8!± 0.37/22 23.Bg3 Rae8]

23.Nc4!± Rf8 24.Bg3

[24.Nxb6 Bxb3 25.Qc3 Nxg2-+]

24...Rad8

(Diagram)



25.Rf1 0.17/27

[25.Nxb6 Rxd4 *(25...Bxb3 26.Qc3±)* 26.Rf1 Qc7∓ *(26...Bxb3 27.Qb2+-; 26...Bxb3 27.Qb2+-)*]

[25.Rad1!± 1.00/23]

25...g5!= 26.Bxf4

[26.Nxb6 Rxd4 27.Kh1 Rb4-+ *(27...Bxb3 28.Qc5∓)*]

26...gxf4 27.Rad1

[27.Nxb6 Rxd4 28.Rab1 Rb4∓]

27...Qg7 28.Qf2

[28.Nxb6 Rxd4 29.Rf2 Rxd1+ 30.Qxd1 Qc3∓]

28...f3 ...b6-b5 would now be deadly.

29.g3 -0.90/21

[29.Qg3= 0.15/30 keeps the balance. fxg2 *(29...Qxg3 30.hxg3 b5 31.Nxa5=)* 30.Rxf8+ *(30.Kxg2 Rxf1 31.Qxg7+ Kxg7=)* 30...Rxf8 31.Qxg7+ *(31.Nxb6? Qxg3 32.hxg3 Bh3-+; 31.Kxg2 Bf7=)* 31...Kxg7 32.Kxg2]

29...Bh3 30.Rfe1 Qf7 0.25/22

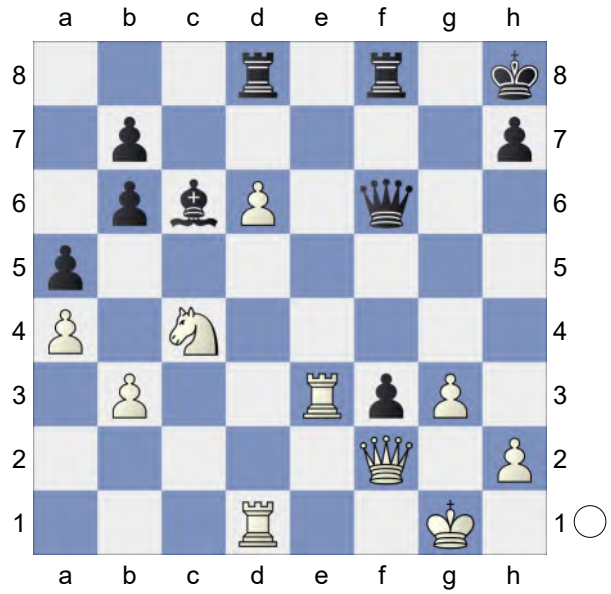
[30...b5∓ -0.44/22 31.axb5 cxb5]

31.Rd3 Bg2 1.00/19

[31...b5= 0.19/24 remains equal. 32.Ne5 *(32.Nxa5 Ra8∓)* 32...Qh5]

32.Ne3 0.43/23

[32.Nxb6 Rd6 33.Nc4 Rh6=]
[32.e5± 1.00/19]
32...Qg7? 2.06/18
[32...Bh3± 0.43/23]
33.d5? 0.42/24
[White should try 33.Nxg2+- 2.06/18 fxg2 34.Qe3 *(34.Qxg2 Rxd4 35.Rf3 h6±)*]
33...Bh3± 34.Red1 -0.15/27
[34.Nd1!± 0.55/24]
34...cxd5 0.50/19
[34...Qg6= -0.15/27]
35.exd5 -0.11/28
[35.Nxd5± 0.50/19 Bg4 36.Rd4 *(36.Nxb6? Rxd3 37.Rb1 Rxb3-+)*]
35...Kh8 36.d6 Bd7 37.Nc4 Bc6? 1.62/22
[37...Rde8!= 0.00/28 and Black has nothing to worry. 38.Re3 *(38.Rxf3 Rxf3 39.Qxf3 Bg4∓; 38.Nxb6? Re2-+)* 38...Rxe3 39.Nxe3 *(39.Qxe3? f2+-+)* 39...Qc3]
38.Re3 0.70/22
[38.Qxb6? f2+ 39.Kf1 Bd7-+]
[White should play 38.Nxb6+- 1.62/22 Qg5 39.Nc4]
38...Qf6!



39.Rde1 0.00/35
[39.Nxb6 Rxd6 40.Rxd6 Qxd6=]
[Better is 39.Red3!± 0.81/22]
39...b5= The position is equal. **40.axb5**
[40.Nxa5 Rxd6 41.Rf1 Bd5 *(41...bxa4 42.Nxc6 Rxc6 43.Rxf3±)* 42.axb5 Rb6]
40...Bxb5 41.Re6 Qc3 42.Ne5 Qxb3
[42...Qxe1+? 43.Qxe1 f2+ 44.Qxf2 Rxf2 45.Kxf2+-]
43.Nxf3 Deflection **43...Qxf3 44.Qb2+ Kg8 45.Qxb5** Qb5-g5+ is the strong threat. **45...Qf2+ 46.Kh1** Threatens to win with Qb5-g5+. Active counter play! **46...Qf3+ 47.Kg1** And now Qb5-g5+ would win. **47...Qf2+ 48.Kh1** Strongly threatening Qb5-g5+. **48...Qf3+ 49.Kg1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.21 (precise)
½-½

247 **C65**
□ **Lagarde,Maxime** **2604**
■ **Parligras,Mircea Emilian** **2561**
FRA-chT Top 16 Haute (3.28) 08.06.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Qe7 7.Nbd2 Bg4 8.h3** The position is equal. **8...Bh5 9.a3!** The main line 9.a3 scores better than 9.Nc4. Die Hauptvariante 9.a3 punktet besser als 9.Sc4. **9...a5 10.Nc4 Nd7 11.Ne3N** An important novelty. Eine beachtenswerte Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 11.g4 Bg6! 12.b4 Bb6 *(12...axb4 13.Bg5 f6 14.axb4 Rxa1 15.Qxa1 Bd6 16.Nxd6+ cxd6 17.Be3 0-0 18.Qa7 Rb8 19.Nh4* 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin (4.-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6... *)* 13.Bd2

(13.Rb1 axb4 14.axb4 0-0 15.b5 cxb5 16.Rxb5 f6 17.Nxb6 Nxb6 18.Be3 Qd7 19.Rb4 Qc6 20.Qb1 Ra6 21.Nh4 Rfa8 22.Kg2 Bf7 23.Nf5 Kh8 24.Bxb6 Rxb6 25.Rxb6 cxb6 26.Qb4 Qxc2 27.Qe7 Kg8 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Qe7-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Qe7 (34)) 13...axb4 14.axb4 0-0 15.Qe2 Rfe8 16.Kh2 f6 17.Nh4 1-0 Sindarov,J (2658)-Nguyen,N (2635) Asian Games tt 2023 (3.6) Nf8 18.Nxb6 cxb6 19.Qe3 c5 20.Nf5 Qc7 21.bxc5 bxc5 22.Rxa8 Rxa8 23.g5 Bxf5 24.exf5 e4+ 25.Kg1 exd3 26.gxf6 gxf6 27.cxd3 Qe5 28.Qf3 Ra1 29.Bc1 Qc3 30.Bh6 1-0 (30) Sindarov,J (2658)-Nguyen,N (2635) Hangzhou 2023]

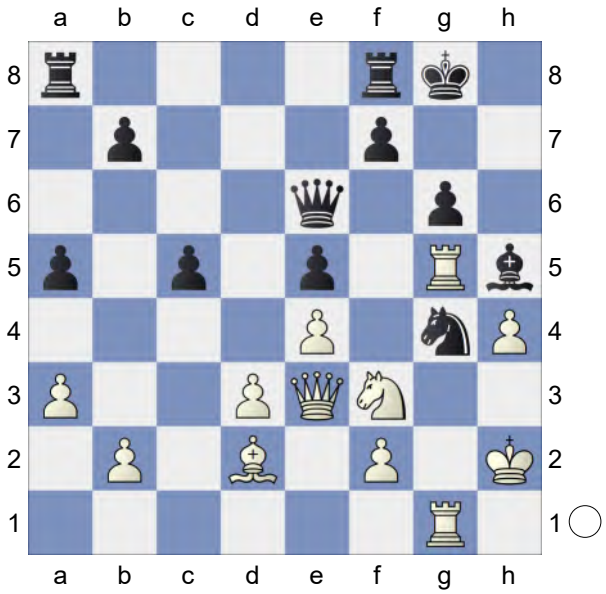
11...Bxe3 12.Bxe3 0-0 13.g4 Bg6 14.Kh2 c5 15.Rg1 c4 16.Qe2 cxd3 17.cxd3 c5 18.h4 h5 0.69/23

[⌓18...f6 0.32/23]

19.gxh5± Bxh5 20.Rg5 Nf6 21.Rag1 g6 22.Bd2! Qe6 1.97/22

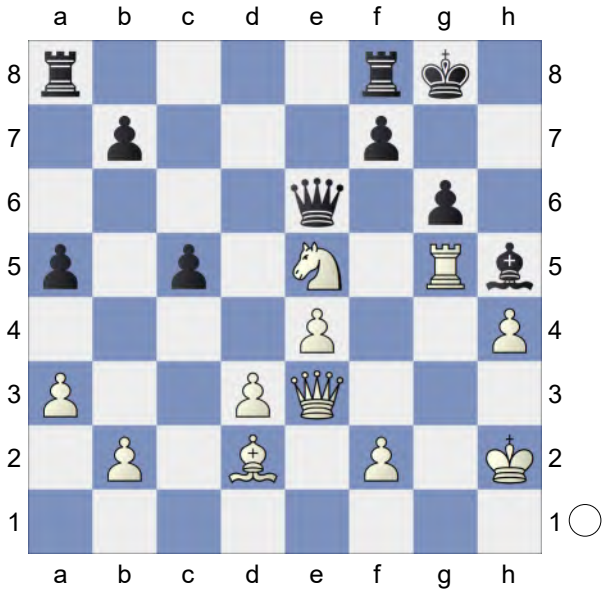
[22...Ra6± 0.84/22]

23.Qe3!+- Ng4+

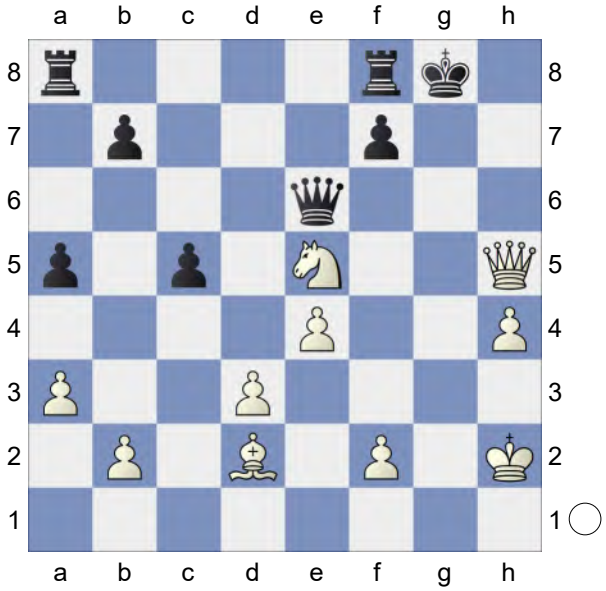


24.R1xg4! Bxg4 25.Nxe5 Bh5

[25...Qd6? 26.Qf4 Bd1 27.Nxg6! Qxf4+ 28.Nxf4+ Kh7 29.Bc3 *(29.Rxc5 b6+-)*]



26.Rxh5! gxh5 27.Qg5+ Kh7 28.Qxh5+ Kg8



29.Bc3!↑ White has strong initiative. 0x0. 001401434aebdp-1022s more active pieces. **29...f6** 2.79/24

[29...Qf6? 30.Ng4 Qf4+ 31.Kg2+-]

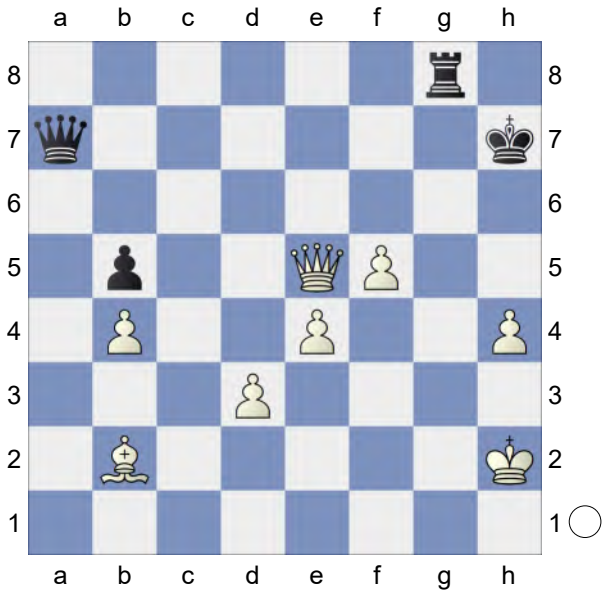
[⌓29...Ra6 1.64/23]

30.Ng4 Rf7 31.Nh6+ Kf8 3.10/22

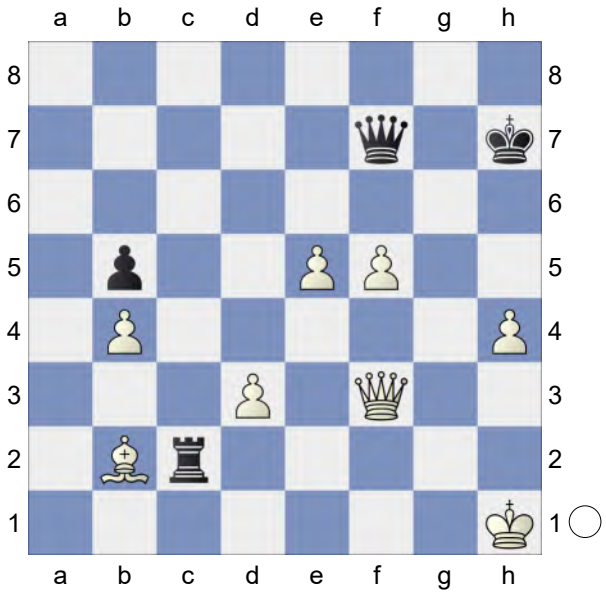
[31...Kg7 2.03/23 is a better defense.

32.e5 fxe5]
32.Nxf7 Really sharp! **32...Qxf7** Endgame KQR-KQB **33.Qh8+ Qg8 34.Qxf6+ Qf7 35.Qd6+**
[35.Qh8+ Ke7 36.Qe5+ *(36.Qxa8 Qxf2+ 37.Kh3 Qf3+ 38.Kh2 Qf2+ 39.Kh1 Qf1+ 40.Kh2 Qf2+=)* 36...Kd7±]
35...Kg8 4.02/22
[35...Ke8 2.72/20 was worth a try. 36.Bf6 *(36.Qxc5 Qf4+ 37.Kg2 Qg4+ 38.Kf1 Qd1+ 39.Be1 Qxd3+ 40.Kg1 Qxe4±)* 36...Rc8]
36.f4
[Worse is 36.Qxc5 Qf4+ 37.Kh1 Qf3+ 38.Kh2 Qf4+ 39.Kh3 Qf3+ 40.Kh2 Qf4+=]
36...Kh7 37.f5 Rg8 38.Qxc5 Qd7 39.Qe5 b5 40.b4 axb4 41.axb4 Black must now prevent Bd4. **41...Qa7** 3.48/23
[41...Re8± 1.45/21 42.Qf6 Rg8]
42.Bd4 Qa2+ 1.53/5
[Black should play 42...Qd7+- 3.49/27 43.Bb2 Qa7]
43.Bb2± Qa7 44.Bd4 -0.01/20 Against Qf2+
[44.Qd4+- 3.67/24 Qxd4 45.Bxd4]
44...Qa2+= 45.Bb2 Qc7+ is the strong threat. **45...Qa7**

(Diagram)



Against Qc7+. (→ ...Qf2+) **46.Qd4** Against Qf2+ **46...Qc7+ 47.Kh1 Qe7 48.Qf2 Qf7** 4.56/22
[48...Qd8 2.86/21 was necessary. 49.Qa7+ Kh6 50.Qe3+ Kh7]
49.Qf3 Hoping for e5. **49...Rc8** 8.52/19
[⌓49...Rd8 4.43/21 50.Kh2 Kg8 51.Qg3+ Kh7]
50.e5+- Threatening mate with e6.
50...Rc2



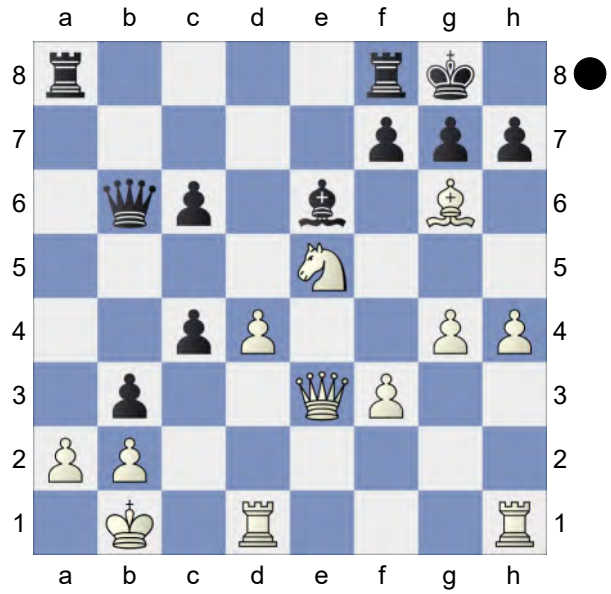
51.e6! Qe8
[51...Rc1+ 52.Bxc1]
52.Qb7+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.

26 (precise) /Black=0.44
1-0

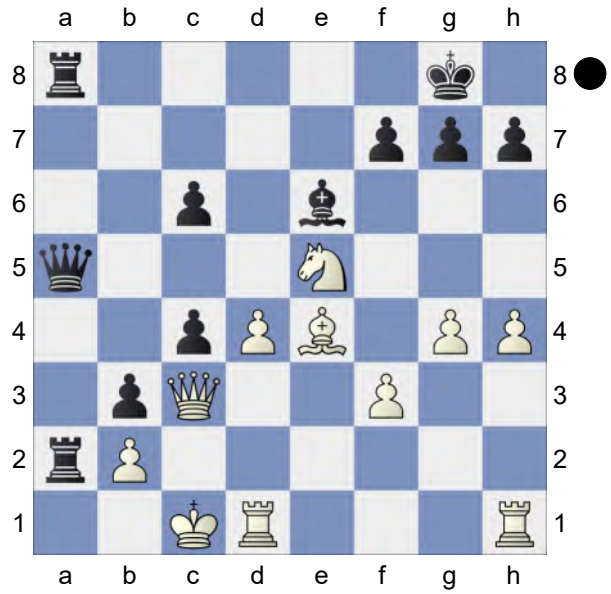
248 **C65**
□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2604**
■ **Swiercz,Dariusz** **2646**
Speed Chess Q2 blitz (5) 12.11.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 It's great pity that it was the last Amber tournament... **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Qe2 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.d3 d6**
[6...h6 7.Nbd2 d6 8.0-0 Ne7 9.d4 a6 10.dxc5 axb5 11.cxd6 Qxd6 12.Qxb5 Ng6 13.Re1 b6 14.Nc4 Qe6 15.Ne3 Nxe4 16.Qd5 Nc5 17.b4 Bb7 18.Qxe6 Nxe6 19.Nf5 Rfd8 20.a4 Rd3 21.Be3 0-1 Hou,Y (2676)-Kramnik,V (2783) Dortmund SuperGM 43rd 2015 (2)]
7.h3! is recently more successful than 7. Bg5. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7. Lg5. **7...Bb6N**
[7...a6 8.Ba4 b5 9.Bb3 Be6 10.Bg5 Bxb3 11.axb3 Qe7 12.b4 Bb6 13.Nbd2 Qe6 14.0-0 a5 15.bxa5 Nxa5 16.Nh4 Nc6 17.Nf5 Ne7 18.Qf3 Kh8 19.Kh1 Nfg8 20.b4 f6 21.Be3 Bxe3 22.fxe3 1-0 Munguntuul,B (2342)-Yakubbaeva,N (2241) Masters Open 2024 (2.67)]
[7...h6 8.Nbd2 a6 9.Ba4 b5 10.Bc2 Bb7 11.Nf1 d5 12.g4 b4 13.g5 hxg5 14.Bxg5 Be7 15.Rg1 bxc3 16.bxc3 a5 17.Nh4 dxe4 18.Bh6 g6 19.dxe4 Kh7 20.Bxf8 Bxf8 21.Ne3 Nh5 22.Nhg2 1-0 Bortnyk,O (2604)-Aditya,M (2486) Speed Chess Q2 blitz 2022 (2)]
8.Nbd2 Ne7 The position is equal.
9.Ba4 Ng6 10.Nf1N
[Vorgänger: 10.Nc4 h6 11.0-0 Nh5 12.Kh2 Repels Nh5-g3 Nhf4 13.Qd1 Qf6 14.Ng1 -0.53/19 *(14.Bc2= 0.04/17)* 14...Be6 0.21/17 *(* Black should play *14...d5∓* -0.53/19 *15.exd5 Nxd5)* 15.Nxb6 axb6 16.Bc2! 1-0 (43) Karjakin,S (2779)-Jumabayev,R (2525) Astana 2012]
10...c6 11.Be3 d5 12.0-0-0 Be6
[12...dxe4 13.dxe4 Qc7 14.Qc2∓]
13.Kb1 Bxe3
[13...dxe4 14.dxe4 Qc7 15.Bb3=]
14.Qxe3 -1.60/19
[⌓14.exd5 -0.90/20 cxd5 *(14...Qxd5 15.Bb3=)* 15.fxe3]
14...b5 -1.02/19
[⌓14...dxe4! -1.60/19 15.Ng5 Bxa2+ *(15...Nd5 16.Qg3∓)* 16.Kxa2 Qa5]
15.Bc2 a5 -0.33/18
[15...b4∓ -1.01/18 ...b4xc3 is the strong threat. 16.cxb4 d4]
16.d4 Nxe4 0.09/20
[16...dxe4∓ -0.57/18 17.dxe5 Bd5]
17.Nxe5 -0.45/18
[17.dxe5= 0.09/20 Qb8 18.N1d2]
17...b4 18.f3 -1.03/18
[Better is 18.Nxc6∓ -0.38/19 Nxc3+ 19.bxc3]
18...Nd6!∓ 19.Nd2 -1.69/20
[19.h4∓ -1.18/16]
19...Qb6 -1.11/18
[19...Nf5-+ -1.69/20 20.Bxf5 Bxf5+ 21.Ka1 Re8]
20.cxb4 -2.35/20 Loses the game.
[20.Bxg6∓ -1.11/18 hxg6 *(20...fxg6? 21.Ka1-+)* 21.Ka1]
20...axb4-+ 21.g4 -4.36/19 Dodges Nd6-f5
[21.Nxg6 -1.97/19 hxg6 22.Qf4]
21...Nc4 22.Ndxc4 dxc4 23.h4 b3

24.Bxg6

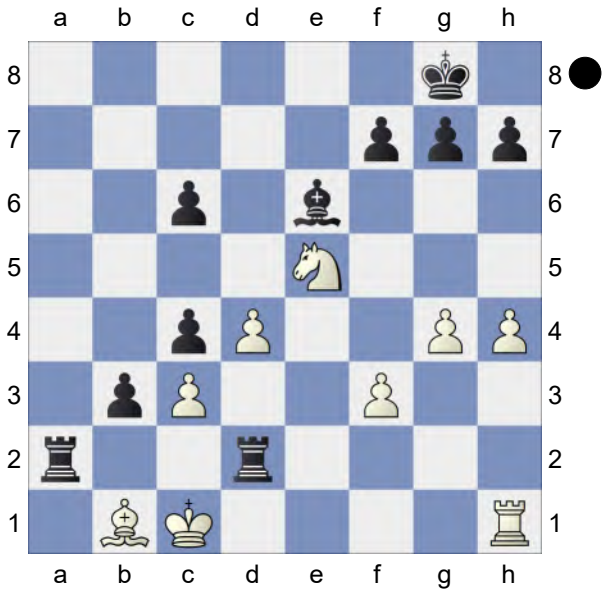


Rxa2!
[Not 24...fxg6 25.a3=]
[24...bxa2+ 25.Ka1 fxg6 *(25...hxg6? 26.h5-+)* 26.Nxg6∓]
25.Be4? -7.76/23
[25.Qc3 -3.96/20 hxg6 *(25...fxg6? 26.Nxc4 Qa6 27.Na3-+; 25...Qa6? 26.Bxf7+ Bxf7 27.Kc1-+)* 26.h5]
25...Qa5 26.Kc1 Ra8 -3.83/23
[⌓26...Ra1+ -9.09/23 27.Bb1 Qa2]
27.Qc3



Qxc3+ 28.bxc3 Re2 (→ ...b3-b2+)

29.Rd2
[29.Bxc6? Ra1#]
29...Ra1+ Skewer **30.Kb2 Ra2+**
[30...Rxh1? perishes. 31.Rxe2 Rxh4 32.Bxc6+- *(32.Nxc6 h5+-)*]
31.Kc1 Black must now prevent Rd2xe2.
31...Rexd2 32.Bb1



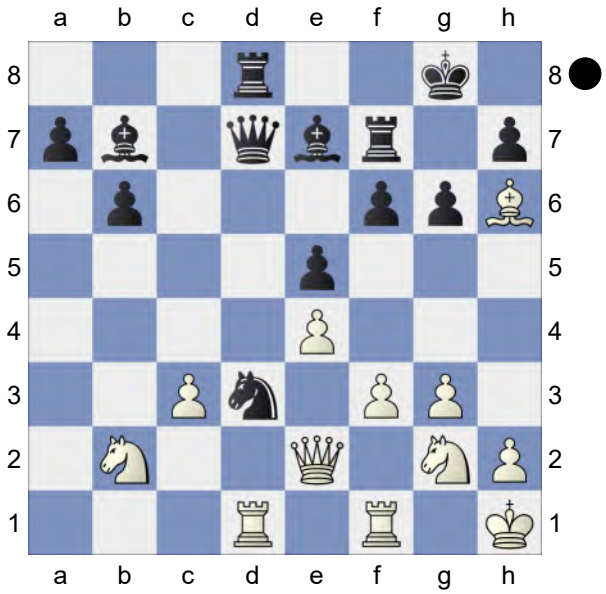
Rg2! 33.Re1
[33.Bxh7+ Kxh7]
33...Ra1 (→ ...Rg2-c2+) **34.Nxc4 Kf8** -10.79/19
[⌓34...Rc2+ -#2/6 35.Kd1 Rxb1#]
35.Nd2 Bd5 36.c4 Weighted Error Value: White=1.10/Black=0.77 Loss on time!?
1-0

249 **C65**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2703**
■ **Ding,Liren** **2836**
Lindores Abbey Prelim rapid (2) 19.5.20
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** Mueller,Karsten **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6**

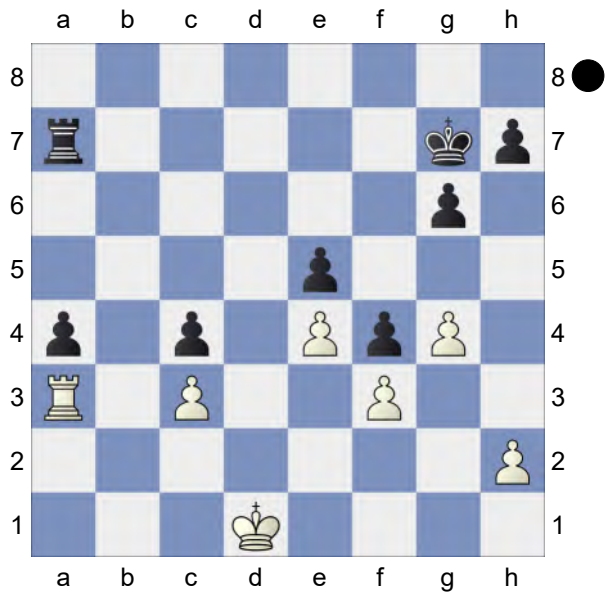
6.Nbd2 Nd7 7.Nc4 f6 8.Bd2N
[8.c3 Nb6 *(8...0-0 9.0-0 Re8 10.d4 exd4 11.cxd4 Bf8 12.Qb3 Kh8 13.Re1 a5 14.Bf4 b5 15.Na3* 4. d3 | Berlin with 4...Bc5 P-N,N*; 8...Nf8 9.Be3* Reference Games-Iljiushenok,I*)* 9.b4 Bd6 10.Nxd6+ Qxd6 11.a4 Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.Be3 Nd7 14.0-0 a5 15.Qb3 Bxf3 16.gxf3 axb4 17.cxb4 Nf8 18.Kh2 Ne6 19.Rg1 g5 20.Rgd1 4. d3 | Berlin with 4...Bc5 P-Nd7]
[8.0-0 Nf8 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.Nxe3 Ne6 11.c3 c5 12.Qc2 0-0 13.Rad1 Kh8 14.Rd2 Qe8 15.d4 cxd4 16.cxd4 exd4 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.Rxd4 c6 19.Rfd1 Be6 20.a3 Qe7 21.Qd3 Rae8 22.f3 h6 Topp (2712)-10.?a3 b6 11.ba5 ?h5_7469 (2747) www.desc-online.de 2023 Kramnik: MBM [John Watson] 0-1 (49)]
8...Nf8 9.b4 Be7 10.Nh4 g6 11.0-0 Ne6 12.g3 0-0 13.Ng2 b6 14.Kh1 c5 15.a3 Bb7 16.Bh6 Rf7 17.c3 Qd7 18.Qe2 Rd8 19.Rad1 -0.92/22
[19.Rfd1∓ -0.49/20 feels stronger.]
19...cxb4∓ 20.axb4 c5 21.bxc5 Nxc5
[Inferior is 21...Bxc5 22.f4∓]
22.f3 Nxd3 23.Nb2

(Diagram)

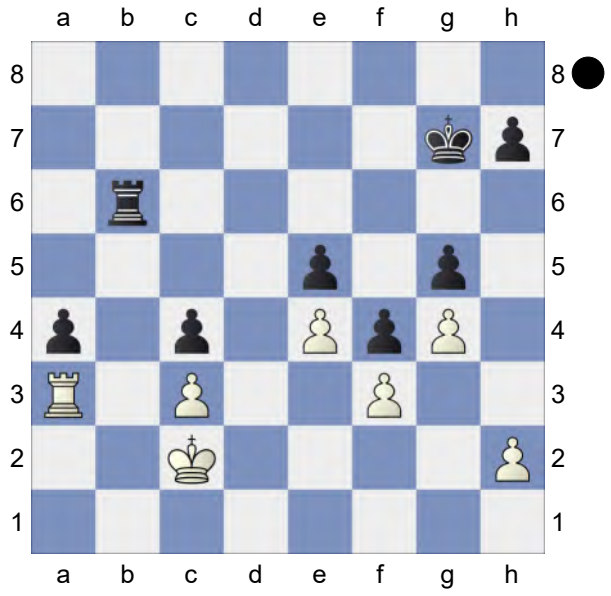


Qh3! 24.Nxd3 Strongly threatening Bc1.
24...Qxh6 25.Qa2 -1.87/20
[25.Ne3∓ -1.27/19]
25...a5-+ 26.Nb2 Qf8 27.Qe6 -2.47/22
[27.Ne3∓ -1.60/19]
27...Bc5 28.Na4 Bc8 A strong pair of Bishops. **29.Qc4 Rxd1 30.Rxd1 Kg7 31.Nxc5 Qxc5**
[And not 31...bxc5 32.Ne3∓]
32.Qxc5 bxc5 Endgame KRB-KRN **33.Ra1 Ra7 34.Ne3 Be6** Against Nc4 **35.Kg1 a4 36.Ra3 f5 37.Kf2 f4 38.Nd1 Bb3 39.Ke1 Bxd1 40.Kxd1** KR-KR **40...c4 41.g4**

(Diagram)



g5! 42.Kc2 Ra6 -1.05/26
[42...h5-+ -2.42/26 is more deadly. White must now prevent ...hxg4. 43.h3 h4]
43.Kb1 -2.12/25
[43.Kd2∓ -1.05/26 might work better.]
43...Rb6+ 44.Kc2



Rh6! 45.Rxa4 Rxh2+ 46.Kd1 Rf2 47.Ra7+ Kg6 48.Ra6+ Kf7 49.Ra7+ Ke6 50.Ra6+ Kd7 51.Ra7+ Kc6 52.Ra6+ Kb5 53.Re6 Ka4
[53...Rxf3 54.Rxe5+ Ka4 55.Kd2∓]
54.Rxe5 h6
[Not 54...Rxf3? 55.Kd2-+]
55.Re6? -6.23/26
[55.Rc5 -2.38/26]
55...Kb3 56.Rxh6 Rxf3 57.Rg6 Rd3+ 58.Ke2 Kxc3 59.Rxg5 Mueller,Karsten: ' ' Mueller,Karsten: 'King of the umbrellas Rook endings have a relatively high tendency to be drawn. So very accurate play is often required.' Mueller, Karsten: 'König der Regenschirme Turmendspiele haben eine relativ hohe Remistendenz. Daher ist oft sehr genaues Spiel vonnöten:' **59...Re3+?** -1.51/25 Mueller,Karsten: 'This just places the rook worse.' Mueller,Karsten: 'Das stellt nur den Turm schlechter.'
[59...Kd4-+ -4.00/25 and Black stays clearly on top. 60.Rg8 f3+ 61.Kf2 Kxe4]
[59...f3+ Mueller,Karsten wins, e.g. gewinnt, z.B. 60.Kf2 Kd4 61.Rd5+ *(61.Rf5 c3 62.g5 c2 63.Rd5+ Kc4-+)* 61...Kxe4 62.Rc5 Rd2+ 63.Kf1 Kf4 64.Rxc4+ Kg3 The pawns protect the king as umbrellas against the shower of checks. Die Bauern schützen den König als Regenschirme vor dem Schachregen des Turmes. 65.Rc1 Rh2-+]
60.Kf2∓ Rxe4 -0.01/22
[Black should try 60...Kd3∓ -1.43/24 61.Rc5 c3]
61.Rg8= The position is equal. **61...Kd3** Threatens to win with ...c3. **62.g5 c3** (→ ...c2) **63.Rd8+ Kc2**
[63...Rd4 Mueller,Karsten 64.Rxd4+ Kxd4 65.g6 c2 66.g7 c1Q 67.g8Q Qe3+ 68.Kf1 Qf3+ 69.Kg1=]
64.Kf3 Re7 65.Kxf4 Rg7 66.Rc8 Kb2 And White is the lucky defender. Weighted Error Value: White=0.25

(precise) /Black=0.24 (precise)
½-½

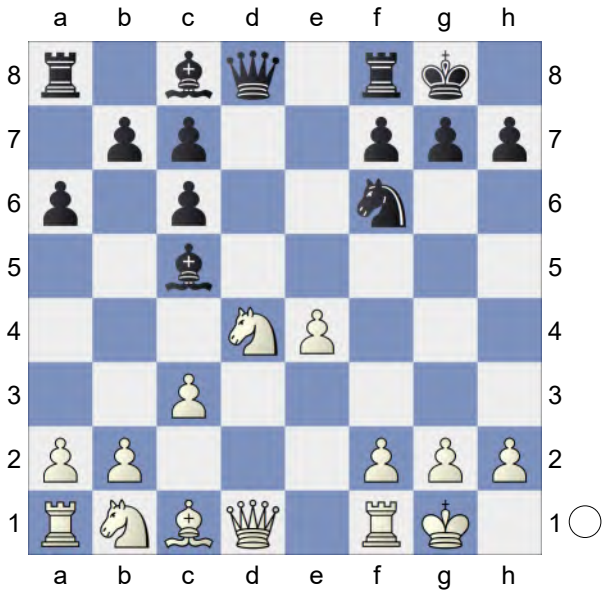
250 **C65**
□ **Carlsen,Magnus** **2863**
■ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2728**
Carlsen Inv Prelim rapid (2.3) 20.04.20
[Kuzmin, Alexey, TA]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** Kuzmin, Alexey Milanovic,Danilo Milanovic,Danilo Milanovic,Danilo **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d4 exd4 5.0-0 a6 6.Bxc6** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'This has suddenly become very popular. There were very few games before 2015, although the first example I have found on the database was a lifetime ago i.e. Shamkovich, L - Taimanov, M Baku 1951.'' **6...dxc6** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'A natural-looking move that has become the most common with Black deciding to wait a little longer before showing his hand." **7.Nxd4**

[7.e5 Ne4 8.Re1 Nc5 9.Nxd4 Be7 10.Nc3 Ne6 11.Nf5 Qxd1 12.Rxd1 Bf8 13.Be3 Bd7 14.Rd3 0-0-0 15.Rad1 b6 16.Ne4 c5 17.Ng5 Be8 18.Rxd8+ Nxd8 19.c4 h6 20.Ne4 Ne6 21.Nfg3 Bc6 Govashelishvili,G (2758)-10.?a3 b6 11.ba5 ?h5_7469 (2723) Livigno ITA 2009 CBM 44 [FM Egor Lashkin] 1-0 (46)]

7...Bc5 8.c3 Black is slightly better. This is the most principled continuation. **8...0-0** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Diagram

(Diagram)

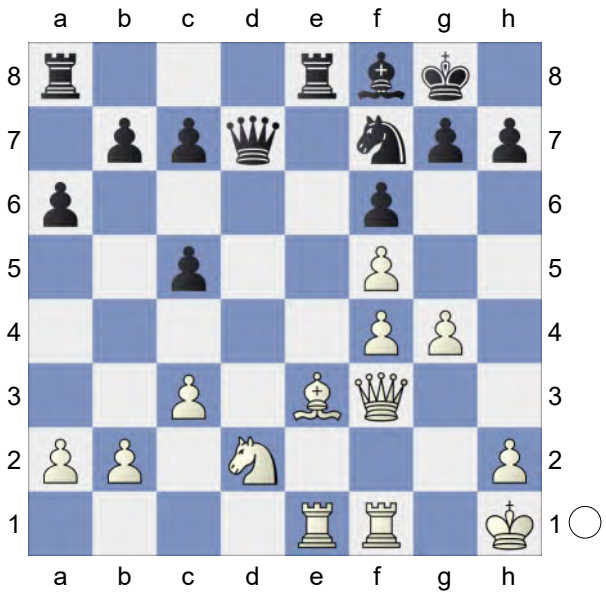


' The other continuations are dubious. **9.f3** Milanovic,Danilo: 'N!?' 'N!?' 'N!?' Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'A novelty. Did this take Firouzja out of his preparation, I wonder?" **9...Nd7N**

[9...Qe7 10.Be3 Bd6 2 Chapter-Games Game]

10.Be3 Ne5 11.Qe2 Qe7 Milanovic, Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'Firouzja obtains the bishop pair, but I imagine that (at the time) Carlsen was happy to play with knights as he has such a solid-looking structure.'' **12.Nd2 f6 13.Kh1 Bd6 14.Rae1** White's pieces have been placed more harmoniously. Although Black does not have evident weaknesses, playing White is easier. **14...c5?!** This is an active but dubious plan. **15.Nf5 Bxf5** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'Trying to seize the initiative on the queenside, but Carlsen isn't fazed.'' **16.exf5 Qd7 17.f4 Nf7** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'Heading for c7 from where the knight covers the key b5 and d5-squares.'' **18.g4** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear, Glenn: 'It's better to react immediately before his young opponent had a chance

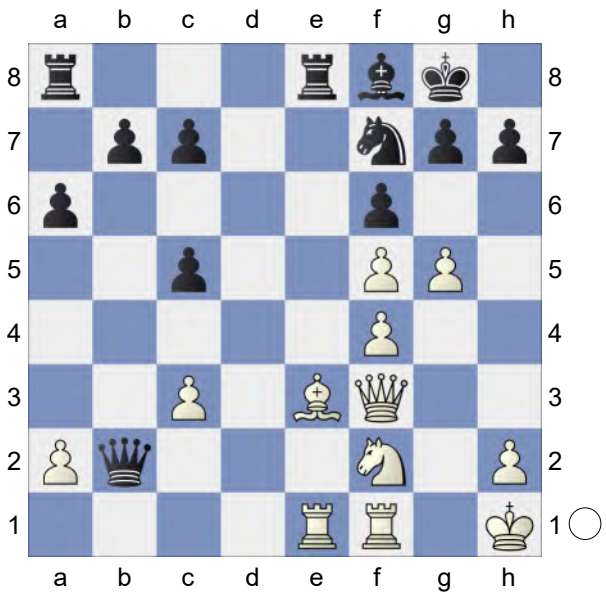
to consolidate with ...Nc7 and ...b5.'' White creates a favourable change of the pawn structure. His position is better. **18...Rfe8 19.Qf3 Bf8** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Diagram



' **20.Ne4** Milanovic,Danilo: '?!' '?!' '?!' Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'Again it's important to make ...b5 less attractive, to stop the opponent 'tidying up' his majority.'' **20...Qd3 21.Nf2** Milanovic,Danilo: '?!' '?!' '?!' **21...Qb5** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear, Glenn: 'It's always worth wondering why people give up 'good' bishops for free. Here it's because the knight on c3 is an even better minor piece!'' **22.g5 Qxb2** 0.74/20

[22...Nd6= 0.07/18 remains equal.]

(Diagram)



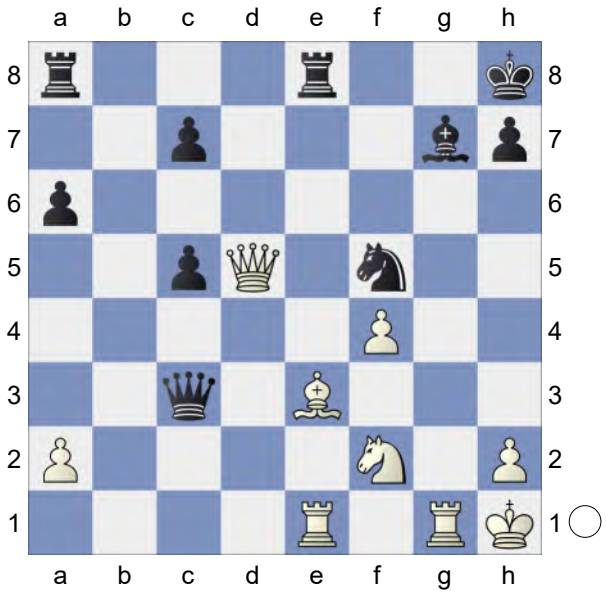
23.gxf6!± Qxc3 1.86/21

[23...Kh8± 0.71/20]

24.fxg7 1.10/20

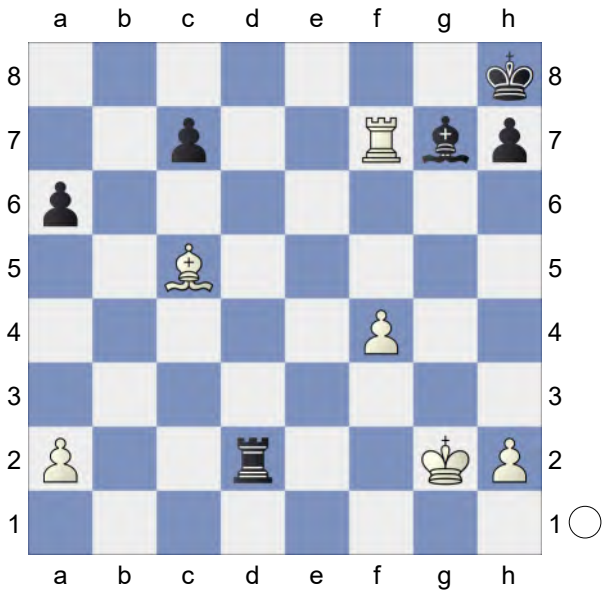
[24.Ng4+- 1.86/21]

24...Bxg7 Milanovic,Danilo: '?' '?' '?' **25.Rg1** Threatens to win with Ne4. **25...Kh8 26.Qxb7** -0.01/22 **Nd6= 27.Qd5** Milanovic,Danilo: '!' '!' '!' Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: ' ⌓!' Flear, Glenn: 'as is played two moves later.''. Strongly threatening Ng4. **27...Nxf5?** 2.32/22

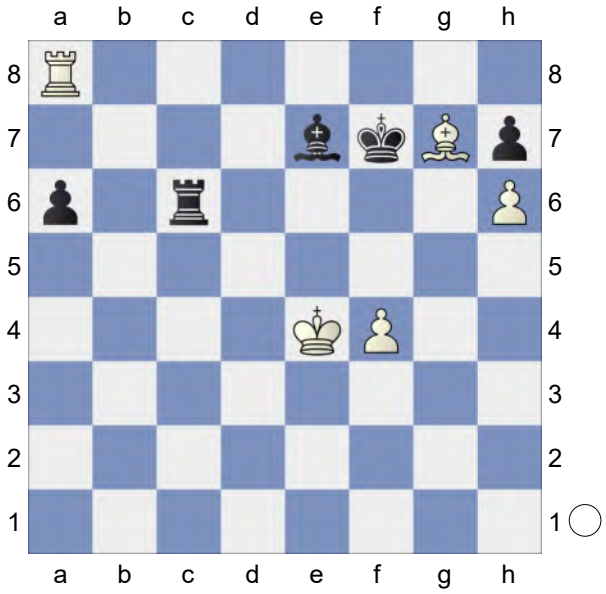


28.Bxc5! 0.31/22 Milanovic,Danilo:

'Flear,Glenn: '!' Flear,Glenn: 'The knight manoeuvre takes the sting out of Black's play and so the c-pawn is starting to have a 'weak feel' to it.'' **28...Rad8±**
[28...Rab8 29.Nd3]
29.Rxe8+ Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: '?' Flear,Glenn: 'Natural enough, but bad. '' **29...Rxe8** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: '?'' **30.Nd3 Qf6 31.Rg5 Rd8 32.Qxf5 Qxf5** Remove Defender **33.Rxf5** Milanovic,Danilo: '±' '±' '±' **33...Rxd3=** Endgame KRB-KRB **34.Rf7 Rd1+ 35.Kg2** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'The smoke has cleared and Firouzja has dropped his c-pawn too cheaply. Now it's a question of Carlsen's technique.'' **35...Rd2+** Milanovic,Danilo: 'Diagram

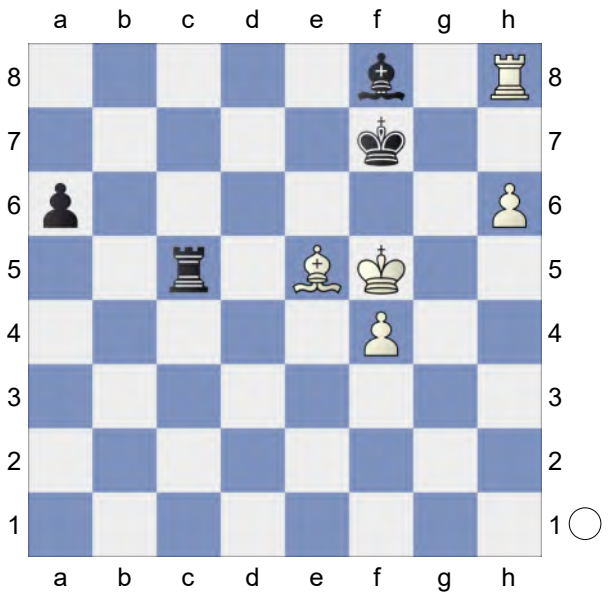


' **36.Kf3 Rxa2 37.Rxc7 Kg8 38.h4 Rc2 39.Rc8+ Kf7 40.Ke4 Rc4+ 41.Kf5 Bd4** 0.73/26
[41...a5 and Black's king is opened up anyway.]
[41...Bh6= -0.01/27]
42.Rf8+± Kg7 43.Bd6 Rc6! 44.Rd8 Bc5 45.Be5+ Kf7 46.Rd7+ Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'The key move which takes away the knight's central outpost.'' **46...Be7 47.h5 Ke8 48.Ra7 Rh6** 2.08/27
[48...h6± 1.11/24 49.Bd4 Rc4]
49.Bg7 1.15/25
[Better is 49.Ra8++- 2.08/27 Kf7 50.Kg4]
49...Rc6
[49...Rxh5++- 10.49/22 49...Rc6 1.23 No better is 50.Ke6 (Milanovic,Danilo) due to. White wants to mate with Ra8+. Bd8 51.Rf7]
[49...Rxh5+? 50.Ke6 Bd8 51.Rf7+-]
50.h6 0.65/25
[50.Kg4± 1.07/23]
50...Kf7 51.Ke4 Ke8 52.Ra8+ Kf7!



53.Rh8 0.46/26
[White must play 53.Kf5!+- 1.82/21]
53...Rc4+? 5.08/24
[53...Bf6! Milanovic,Danilo]
[53...Bf6!± 0.46/26]
54.Kf5+- Rc5+ 55.Be5 Milanovic,Danilo: 'Flear,Glenn: 'Carlsen tucks his king away from danger before preparing the decisive attack.'' **55...Bf8 56.Rxh7+ Kg8 57.Rh8+ Kf7**

(Diagram)



58.Rxf8+! Weighted Error Value: White=0.21 (precise) /Black=0.46
1-0

251 **C67**
□ **Yoo,Christopher Woojin** **2563**
■ **Erigaisi,Arjun Kumar** **2725**
Julius Baer GenCup KO rapid (1.14)
[Giri,Anish, TA]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6** In a must-draw, Erigaisi plays the most solid opening that exists, the Berlin defense. **4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4** A little sideline, a clever approach, when in a must-win situation. **6...Be7! 7.Nc3 0-0 8.d4** The position is equal. **8...e4** Deflection Returning the pawn one way or the other is a common way of trying to deal with White's gambit approach. Black could have also included a6 at some point. **9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re3N** Interesting, intending to swing the rook accross, along the third rank, potentially.

[11.Re1 Bg4 *(11...Bf6 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Qd3 c5 14.dxc5 a5 15.Ne5 Be6 16.Bf4 Re8 17.h3 Qc8 18.Rad1 Rb8 19.b3 Rb4 20.Qg3 c6 21.Nf3 Bf5 22.Bd2 Rbe4 23.Rxe4 Bxe4 24.Ne1 Qa6 25.Nd3 h5 26.Re1* 0-1 Evseev,N (2058)-Semachev,K (2135) Munich SKA 1993 (5) *)* 12.Bxc6 bxc6 13.Qd3 *(13.h3 Bh5 14.Qd3 f6 15.Nh4 Bd6 16.Qf5 Bf7 17.Qg4 Qc8 18.Qf3 Re8 19.Bf4 Qd7 20.Bxd6 cxd6 21.b4 Rxe1+ 22.Rxe1 Re8 23.Rxe8+ Qxe8 24.c3 Be6 25.Qe2 Qc8 26.g4 Kf7 27.Qd3 g6* ½-½ Tabatabaei,M (2664)-Akopian,V (2616) Dubai op 22nd 2022 (6)*)* 13...f6 *(13...Bxf3 14.Qxf3 Bd6* Ferragut,A (2700)-Makeev,N (2688) 8 Biel 2017*)* 14.Bf4 Qd7 15.h3 Bh5 16.Nh4 Rfd8 17.g4 Bf7 18.Nf5 Bf8 19.Re2 Re8 20.Rae1 Rxe2 21.Rxe2 h5 6 Chapter-Games Chapter 11 Game]

11...Bd6 12.Bxc6 White creates some imbalance, as Black was ready to transfer the knight with Ne7, keeping the symmetry. Now White gets a better pawn structure, in return for the bishop pair. **12...bxc6 13.h3** Modest, but the tempting 13.Ne5 also doesn't exactly kill, after 13...c5. **13...c5** Logical, trying to undouble the pawns, but it wasn't neccessary. Now White gets to eventually control the important dark squares d4-c5. **14.dxc5 Bxc5 15.Rc3** The rook proves useful on the third rank. **15...Bb4** A strong pair of Bishops. **16.Rd3 c6 17.Bf4** Finishing the development. White really doesn't have much, but there is quite some play left here. **17...Re8** Black plays very natural moves- rooks belong on open files. **18.c3 Bf8 19.b4!** White highlights the ambition of controlling the dark squares.

Black though has a strong light squared bishop and shouldn't be doing badly just yet. **19...Bf5 20.Re3 Rxe3?!** 0.46/21 Stronger was 20...Be4!, when the bishop on f4 is also potentially vulnerable to Qf6 at some point. Now Black forces White to reposition the dark squared bishop to a better square, a protected one, from which it also controls the c5 square.

[20...Be4= -0.01/22]

21.Bxe3± Bd6 22.Nd4 Bd7 Black has to go passive here, having very slightly misplayed it. **23.Qf3** White gets to activate the pieces now and slowly start bullying Black on the dark squares. **23...Qc7 24.Nb3** A beautiful regroup. Black is still solid, but the dark squares are fully under White's control. **24...Re8 25.Bc5 Be5 26.a5 Bc8** It is still hard for White to do much, as Arjun remains patient and there isn't anything obvious White can try here. **27.Qd3 h6 28.Bd4 Bd6 29.Qd2** White hints at a trade of rooks... or a potential queen sacrifice!? **29...Bh2+ 30.Kh1 Bf4 31.Re1!** An incredible idea frankly. It takes deep understanding to realize when the rook and a bishop can match a queen, since the childhood math they teach us, claims that queen is worth a couple of points more. **31...Bxd2** Arjun grabs the queen and indeed, there is no need to panic, as even though White has enough compensation, Black's position is full of resources as well. **32.Rxe8+ Kh7 33.Nxd2 Be6** Hinting at some Qd7 Bxh3 ideas. **34.Nb3** It was also possible to play it more slowly with 34.Kg1!? anticipating the Qd7 Bxh3 idea. **34...Qd7⇄** Black is not keeping still **35.Ra8 Bxh3!** Now Black is threatening the perpetual with Bxg2 and Qg4-d1, which White must have missed when allowing 34...Qd7! (in fact I suspect he missed Qd7 itself). Being in a must win, though, Christopher shrugs it off and keeps on fighting. **36.f3!?** White has to try, but of course now it is clear that Black has to be in a great shape. **36...Bf5** A more brutal solution was also possible. 36...Qf5!? hinting at Qb1+, and followed by h5-h4, ready to sacrifice the h3 bishop with strong attack against the naked white king. **37.Rxa7 Qe6** and ...h5 should not be overlooked **38.Kh2** -0.60/24

[White should try 38.a6= -0.01/26]

38...Qe1 -0.01/26 Black is chasing a perpetual. White is desperate.

[38...h5∓ -0.60/24]

39.g4?! -4.09/25 Draw was not an option...

[39.a6= -0.01/26]

39...Qe2+ A slow 39...Bg6! followed by h5 would lead to mating attack, but I can imagine Arjun relaxed somewhat here. **40.Kg3 Qe1+?** -0.01/25 Surprisingly, simplifying makes Black's life only harder. Stronger was still Bg6! intending h5 and a slow, yet quick attack.

[Black should try 40...Bg6!-+ -3.69/25 41.Bc5 Qe1+ 42.Kf4 Qh4 *(42...Qxc3 43.Nd4∓; 42...Bc2 43.Rxf7 Qe6 44.Re7∓)*]

41.Bf2 Chess con chili. **41...Qxc3**

[41...Qe5+ looks sharper. 42.Kg2 Be6 43.Nc5 h5]

42.gxf5 Qxb3 43.Rxf7 Suddenly there are threats of a6, but also Bd4! and Arjun panics. **43...Qxb4?=** Endgame KQ-KRB This lands Black in trouble, as the a-pawn keeps on walking. From the possible defense I like 43... h5!?, intending h4+, but also giving h6

square for the king, which can be relevant after an eventualy Bd4 Rxg7. **44.a6** Black has suddenly found himself at the edge of a cliff and now stumbles again. **44...Qa4?** 6.74/26 It was neccessary to find a strong idea here- 44....Qd2! intending to grab the f7 rook with Qg5-Qh5-Qxf7 was still holding.

[44...h5= 0.20/25]

45.a7+- Now Black is actually lost. **45...d4 46.f6?** 1.08/25 This gives Black some chances, but the win with 46.Re7!! was not findable with the time White had. The natural 46.Rd7 wasn't good enough because of c5!.

[46.Bxd4 Qxd4 47.a8Q *(47.a8B? Kg8-+)* 47...Qg1+ 48.Kh3 Qf1+ 49.Kg3 Qg1+ 50.Kf4 Qd4+ 51.Kg3 Qg1+=]

[46.Re7+- 6.41/25 is more deadly. and f6 would now be decisive Qa3 47.Rd7 *(47.Bxd4 Qxe7 48.a8Q Qd6+ 49.Kh3 Qxd4=)*]

46...Kg6± Black keeps on fighting, but White still has the a7 pawn and it remains a near hopeless mission to stop that pawn. **47.Rd7 gxf6 48.Rxd4** Using the fact that Qxa7 loses to Rg4+ discovery. **48...Qa5 49.Rc4** White has strong compensation. Black has to be super accurate here to not lose immediately. **49...Qa6?** 6.15/25 A final mistake, now White gets access to the 8th rank and there turns out to be no perpetual anywhere.

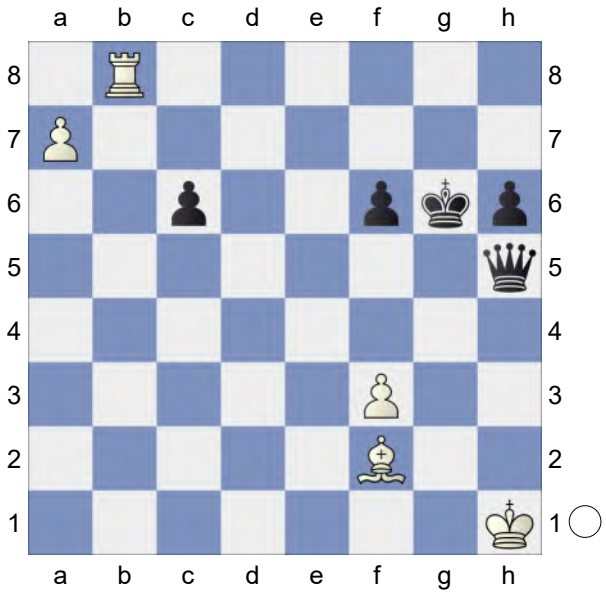
[49...Kf7± 1.05/23]

50.Rb4! Qa5 51.Rb8! The bishop on f2 does the job of stopping the perpetual on its own. **51...Qg5+ 52.Kh3 Qh5+ 53.Kg2 Qg5+ 54.Kh1?** 0.15/27

[54.Kf1!+- 6.22/28 Qc1+ 55.Be1 *(55.Kg2 Qg5+ 56.Kf1 Qc1+ 57.Be1 Qf4+-)*]

54...Qh5+? 3.92/31

[54...Qc1+= 0.15/27 and Black has nothing to worry. 55.Kg2 *(55.Bg1 Qf1+-)* 55...Qg5+ 56.Kf1 Qc1+ 57.Be1 *(57.Kg2 Qg5++-)* 57...Qf4 *(57...Qc4+? 58.Kg2+-)* 58.Rg8+ *(58.a8R Qxf3+ 59.Bf2 Qd1+ 60.Be1 Qf3+ 61.Kg1 Qg4+ 62.Kf2 Qh4+ 63.Ke2 Qe4+ 64.Kd1 Qg4+ 65.Kc2 Qe4+ 66.Kd1 Qg4+ 67.Kc2 Qe4+ 68.Kd2 Qd5+ 69.Ke2 Qe4+ 70.Kd2 Qd5+ 71.Kc2 Qe4+=)* 58...Kh7]

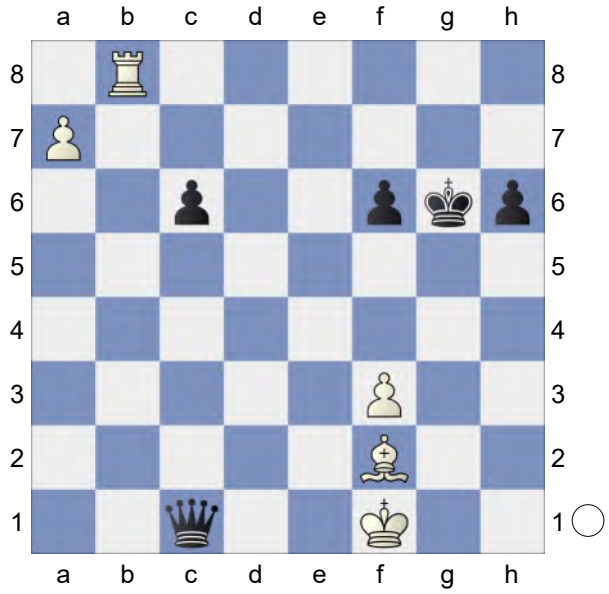


55.Kg1!+- Qg5+? 6.13/29

[55...Qxf3 3.72/28 56.a8Q *(56.a8B Qg4+ 57.Kh1 Qa4∓)* 56...Qd1+ 57.Kh2 Qd6+ 58.Kg2 Qd5+ 59.Kg3 Qd3+ 60.Kf4 *(60.Kh2 Qd6+ 61.Kg2 Qd5+ 62.Kg3 Qd3+ 63.Kf4 Qf5+ 64.Ke3 Qc5+ 65.Kd3 Qf5+ 66.Kc3 Qf3+ 67.Kb4 Qf4+ 68.Ka5 Qf5+ 69.Ka6 Qxf2+-)* 60...Qf5+ 61.Ke3 Qc5+ 62.Kd3 Qf5+ 63.Kc3 *(63.Ke3 Qc5+ 64.Kd3 Qf5+ 65.Kc3 Qf3+ 66.Kb4 Qf4+ 67.Kb3 Qxf2+-)* 63...Qf3+ 64.Kb4 Qxf2 65.Rg8+ *(65.Qxc6 Qb2+ 66.Kc4 Qxb8∓)*

65...Kh7]

56.Kf1 Qc1+



57.Be1! Very accurate play by White, now Qc4+ is met with Kg2! and the final check along the 2nd rank will be dodged with Bf2!. Accurately done. **57...Qe3**

[57...Qc4+ 58.Kg2 Qe2+ 59.Bf2!]

58.Rg8+

[Inferior is 58.a8B Qxf3+ 59.Bf2 Qh1+ 60.Ke2 Qd5∓]

58...Kf7 59.a8Q Intending Qf8+ and mate.

[Not 59.a8R Qxf3+ 60.Kg1 Qd1±]

59...Qxf3+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/Black=0.68 **60.Kg1** Black can give two more checks but after Qe3+ Bf2 Qc1+ Kg2 it is all over. What a fight!

1-0

252 **C67**

□ **Kollars,Dmitrij** **2607**

■ **Svane,Frederik** **2600**

Titled Tuesday intern op 11th Apr Early b..

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Bf1 Be7 7.Nxe5 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Bf6 10.Re1 b6N**

[10...Nf5 11.Nd5 c6 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.c3 d5 14.Qf3 Qg6 15.d4 Nd6 16.Qg3 Qxg3 17.hxg3 Be6 18.f3 Rfe8 19.g4 Bd7 20.Bf4 Rxe1 21.Rxe1 Re8 22.Ra1 Nc8 23.a4 f6 24.Kf2 Be6 25.g5 1-0 Van Delft,M (2390)-Van Beek,A (2339) Meesterklasse 2013 (8)]

[10...Re8 11.Nd5 Rxe1 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.Qxe1 b6 14.d3 Bb7 15.Qb4 *(15.Qe3 Re8 16.Qf4 Qf5 17.Bd2* Lesson 19: Spanish,B-Spanish Berlin 4. O-O Nxe4,7*)* 15...c5 16.Qf4 Qxf4 17.Bxf4 Nf5 18.a4 *(18.Re1 f6 19.c3 Kf7 20.f3 g5 21.Bd2 h5 22.Kf2 h4 23.Be2 Bd5 24.a3 Rg8 25.Bd1 Be6 26.Bc2 Ne7 27.b4 Rc8 28.b5 a5 29.bxa6 Ra8 30.Rb1 Rxa6 31.a4 d6 32.f4 g4* 0-1 Paravyan,D (2586)-Lazavik,D (2541) Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early blitz 2023 (7) *)* 18...f6 19.a5 g5 20.Bd2 Nd4 21.axb6 axb6 22.Rxa8+ Bxa8 23.c3 Ne6 24.f3 Kf7 25.Kf2 ½-½ Grube,J (2764)-Sudgen,J (2760) Cheliabinsk Lozovatsky Memorial-A 2023 (7.2)]

11.Nd5 White is slightly better. **11...Bb7 12.Nxf6+ Qxf6 13.d3 Rae8 14.Rxe8 Rxe8 15.c3 h6 16.Bd2 a5!?N** New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.

[Predecessor: 16...Qh4 17.h3 Re6

18.Qg4 Wards off Re6-g6 Qxg4 19.hxg4 Rg6 20.f3 f5 21.Be2 fxg4 22.fxg4 ½-½ (41) Maghsoodloo,P (2716)-Navara,D (2681) Prague 2022]

17.Qg4 Nf5 18.Qf4 d6 19.h3 g5 20.Qc4 Re7 21.Re1 Rxe1 22.Bxe1 Qe7 23.Bd2 Nh4 24.Qg4 Kg7 25.c4 Kg6 26.d4 f5 27.Qg3 Qe4 28.Qe3 0.12/21

[28.d5± 0.97/23]

28...f4 0.55/21

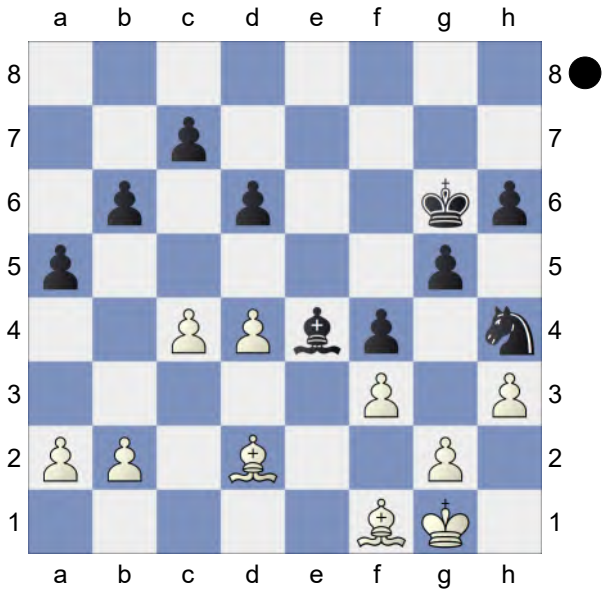
[28...Qxe3!= 0.12/21 is superior. 29.fxe3 Be4]

29.Qxe4+ -0.10/20

[White should play 29.Qc3!± 0.55/21 Qe8 *(29...Nxg2? 30.Bd3+- Pin)* 30.c5]

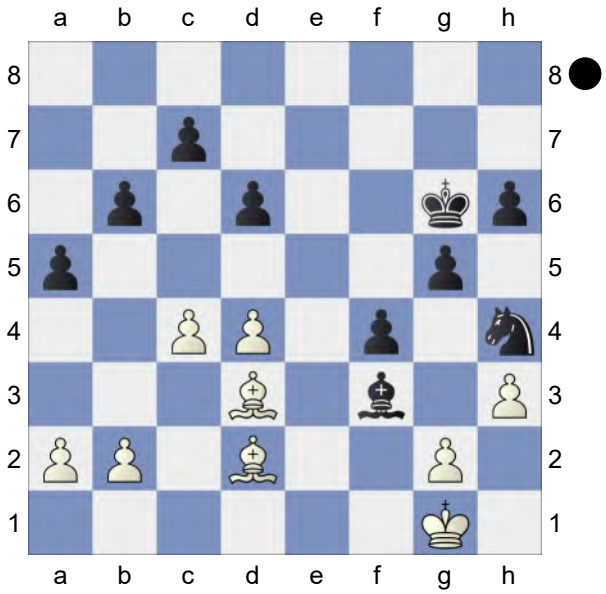
29...Bxe4± Endgame KBB-KBN **30.f3** -1.61/23

[30.Bc3= -0.12/20 and White has nothing to worry.]



30...Bxf3!-+ 31.Bd3+

(Diagram)



Kh5! 32.d5? -4.13/22 Now White is beyond hope.

[32.Bf1∓ -1.51/21]

32...Bxg2 33.Bc3 -5.07/21

[33.Be2+ -3.48/20 was called for. f3 34.Bd1]

33...Bxh3 34.Bf6 -6.59/21

[⌓34.Be2+ -4.46/19 Bg4 35.Bf1]

34...Bf5 35.Bf1 -6.72/20

[⌓35.Be2+ -4.44/21 f3 36.Bf1]

35...g4 36.Bd8 g3 (→ ...f4-f3) **37.Bxc7 f3 38.Bxb6 Be4 39.a3 Ng6 40.b4 axb4 41.axb4 Ne5** (→ ...Ne5-g4) **42.Bd4 Ng4 43.Bh3 f2+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.74/Black=0.14 (very precise)

0-1

253 **C65**

□ **Niemann,Hans Moke** **2699**

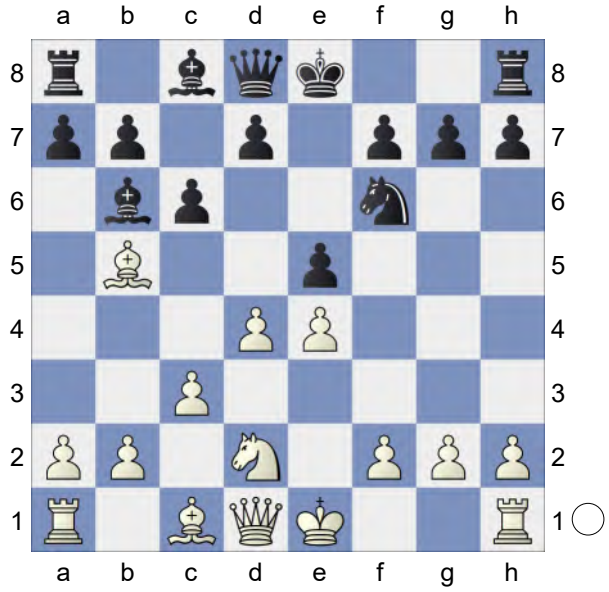
■ **Svane,Frederik** **2568**

Elllobregat op 3rd (9) 08.12.2022

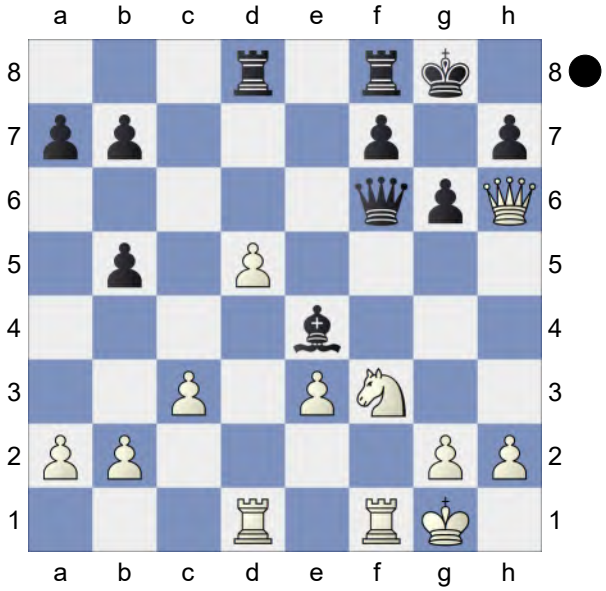
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5**

5.Nbd2 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.d4 -0.19/6
[⌓8.Nc4 0.25/6]
8...c6 0.16/5
[⌓8...exd4 -0.19/6 9.e5 Nd5]



9.dxe5!= cxb5 10.exf6 Qxf6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Qh5
[12.a4 bxa4 13.Nc4 d5 14.exd5 Bd7 15.Be3 Bxe3 16.fxe3 Qe7 17.Qd4 Rfe8 18.e4 f6 19.Rfe1 b5 20.Nd2 a5 21.Nf3 Bg4 22.d6 Qd7 23.e5 Bxf3 24.gxf3 fxe5 25.Rxe5 Rxe5 26.Qxe5 Re8 Nepomniachtchi,I (2775)-So,W (2754) Zagreb 2019 Chess Informant 141 [Milanovic, Danilo] ½-½ (42)]
[12.Nf3 d6 13.Qd3 Bg4 14.Rd1 Rae8 15.a4 bxa4 16.Rxa4 Qg6 17.Bf4 Bc5 18.Bg3 Bd7 19.Raa1 Bc6 20.b4 Bxe4 21.Qf1 Bb6 22.Rxd6 Qg4 23.Nd4 Qc8 24.Nb5 Bc6 25.Nxa7 Bxa7 26.Rxa7 Bb5 Gumularz,S (2588)-Tari,A (2629) Düsseldorf 2023 ½-½ (47)]
12...d5N An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 12...Qc6 13.Re1 Re8 0.43/8 *(13...d6=* 0.04/2 *)* 14.Nf3± d5 0.42/7 *(14...Rxe4=* 0.09/3 feels stronger. *15.Bd2 d5)* 15.exd5 Rxe1+ 16.Nxe1 Qc4 17.h3 Against Bg4 Bd7 18.Qf3 Re8 1-0 (75) Nakamura,H (2760)-Radjabov,T (2753) Madrid 2022 19.Be3 Bxe3 20.fxe3 Re5 21.d6 Qd5 22.Rd1 Qxf3 23.Nxf3 Rxe3 24.Rd5 f6 25.Rc5 Re6 26.Rc7 Rxd6 27.Rxb7 a6 28.Nd4 h5 29.h4 g5 30.g3 Kf7 31.Kf2 Kg6 32.Ke3 Rd5 33.Ra7 Rd6 Nakamura,H (2760)-Radjabov,T (2753) Madrid ESP 2022 [Kosten, Tony] 1-0 (75)]
13.exd5 Bf5 Against Ne4 **14.Nf3 Be4 15.Be3 Bxe3 16.fxe3** And now Nd2 would win. **16...Rad8 17.Rad1** 0.03/6
[17.Ng5± 0.36/4 Bg6 18.Rxf6 Bxh5 19.Rf5]
17...g6= 18.Qh6



Hoping for Ng5. **18...Rxd5 19.Nd4** -0.43/7
[19.Rxd5= 0.00/5 Bxd5 20.e4 *(20.Ng5 Qg7=)*]
19...Qe7∓ 20.Qf4 Re8 21.Rd2 Re5 22.a3 Bc6 -0.20/6
[22...Bd5∓ -0.69/6]

23.Nxc6 bxc6 24.Qf6! Re6 -0.09/4
[24...Qc7∓ -0.54/5]
25.Qxe7= R8xe7 Endgame KRR-KRR
26.Rf3 Kf8 -0.06/4
[26...Rxe3∓ -0.51/5 27.Rxe3 Rxe3]
27.Kf2 The position is equal. **27...h5 28.Rd8+ Re8 29.Rd3 a5 30.Rf4 R8e7 31.Rfd4 Kg7 32.b4 c5 33.bxc5** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
½-½

254 **C65**
□ **Giri,Anish** **2764**
■ **Tari,Aryan** **2625**
Tata Steel 83rd (1) 16.01.2021
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** Giri,Anish 'Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish Giri,Anish Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V" Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish Giri,Anish Giri,Anish Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V''' **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The ever solid, infamous Berlin Defence can never be a complete surprise, especially in a classical tournament of the highest level, but still, if you look at Aryan's career so far, there was very little evidence that it would actually happen.''' 'The ever solid, infamous Berlin Defence can never be a complete surprise, especially in a classical tournament of the highest level, but still, if you look at Aryan's career so far, there was very little evidence that it would actually happen. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The ever solid, infamous Berlin Defence can never be a complete surprise, especially in a classical tournament of the highest level, but still, if you look at Aryan's career so far, there was very little evidence that it would actually happen.''' **4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'This is a major system. White defines the pawn structure and the game tends to revolve around slow positional manoeuvres.''' 'This is a major system. White defines the pawn structure and the game tends to revolve around slow positional manoeuvres. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'This is a major system. White defines the pawn structure and the game tends to revolve around slow positional manoeuvres.''' **5...dxc6 6.0-0** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'There are subtleties and move orders. By castling first White retains the flexibility of his minor pieces, the b1 knight and the c1 bishop, but he does commit the king to the kingside, giving Black some interesting direct options, like the one Aryan pulled out.''' 'There are subtleties and move orders. By castling first White retains the flexibility of his minor pieces, the b1 knight and the c1 bishop, but he does commit the king to the kingside, giving Black some interesting direct options, like the one Aryan pulled out. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'There are subtleties and move orders. By castling first White retains the flexibility of his minor pieces, the b1 knight and the c1 bishop, but he does commit the king to the kingside, giving Black some interesting direct options, like the one Aryan pulled out.''' **6...Bg4** Giri,Anish: '!?''Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari follows his countryman, Magnus Carlsen, who played this aggressive move at least

twice in 2020.''Tari follows his countryman, Magnus C'Tari follows his countryman, Magnus Carlsen, who played this aggressive move at least twice in 2020. Giri,Anish: '!?' '!?' '!?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari follows his countryman, Magnus Carlsen, who played this aggressive move at least twice in 2020.' A trendy setup. I had it ready as a surprise for a while, but evidently I wasn't the only one and it was Magnus Carlsen, who got to use it first against Hikaru Nakamura. The resulting positions are fascinating.' Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari follows his countryman, Magnus Carlsen, who played this aggressive move at least twice in 2020.'" arlsen, who played this aggressive move at least twice in 2020. Giri,Anish: '!?' '!?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari follows his countryman, Magnus Carlsen, who played this aggressive move at least twice in 2020.' A trendy setup. I had it ready as a surprise for a while, but evidently I wasn't the only one and it was Magnus Carlsen, who got to use it first against Hikaru Nakamura. The resulting positions are fascinating." ' 'A trendy setup. I had it ready as a surprise for a while, but evidently I wasn't the only one and it was Magnus Carlsen, who got to use it first against Hikaru Nakamura. The resulting positions are fascinating. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'A trendy setup. I had it ready as a surprise for a while, but evidently I wasn't the only one and it was Magnus Carlsen, who got to use it first against Hikaru Nakamura. The resulting positions are fascinating. '" **7.h3** **Bh5** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'This is the modern way and the point. Giving up the bishop pair is not the idea.'" 'This is the modern way and the point. Giving up the bishop pair is not the idea. Mikhalevski, V: 'Giri,Anish: 'This is the modern way and the point. Giving up the bishop pair is not the idea.'" **8.g4** The position is equal.'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now Black has a choice, to sacrifice a pawn or a piece.'" 'Now Black has a choice, to sacrifice a pawn or a piece. Mikhalevski, V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now Black has a choice, to sacrifice a pawn or a piece.'" **8...Nxg4** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'A piece!'" 'A piece! Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'A piece! ''' **9.hxg4** **Bxg4** **10.Be3** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Strong move, developing the bishop with a tempo.'" 'Strong move, developing the bishop with a tempo. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Strong move, developing the bishop with a tempo.''' **10...Be7** A strong pair of Bishops.'Mikhalevski,V: 'This retreat was introduced by the world champion in his online rapid game against Nakamura. See below."This retrea'This retreat was introduced by the world champion in his online rapid game against Nakamura. See below. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'This retreat was introduced by the world champion in his online rapid game against Nakamura. See below.' This was the actual novelty that Magnus played and the one that was pointed out to me by my computer as well. The idea of this move, compared to the far more obvious 10...♗d6, is that now there is an x-ray of the queens along the d-file and there is a threat of 11...f5! 12.exf5 e4! when after 13.dxe4 there is now 13... ♕xd1 with the f3 knight falling.' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'This retreat was introduced by the world champion in his online rapid game against Nakamura.

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[Earlier we analysed 10...Bd6 (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) in Wei Yi (2706)-Xiu Deshun (2557) China CHN 2015 [Mikhalevski,V] Mikhalevski, V: 'in Wei Yi (2706)-Xiu Deshun (2557) China CHN 2015 [Mikhalevski, V] Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) in Wei Yi (2706)-Xiu Deshun (2557) China CHN 2015 [Mikhalevski,V]'' Mikhalevski,V: 'in Wei Yi (2706)-Xiu Deshun (2557) China CHN 2015 [Mikhalevski,V] Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) in Wei Yi (2706)-Xiu Deshun (2557) China CHN 2015 [Mikhalevski,V]' Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) in Wei Yi (2706)-Xiu Deshun (2557) China CHN 2015 [Mikhalevski,V]'' Mikhalevski,V: 'in Wei Yi (2706)-Xiu Deshun (2557) China CHN 2015 [Mikhalevski,V]']

11.Kg2 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'A logical improvement on 'A logical improvement on Nakamura's 11.Kh1. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'A logical improvement on Nakamura's 11.Kh1.' Deviating from Nakamura-Carlsen, Online Rapid Lindores Abbey 2020' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'A logical improvement on Nakamura's 11. Kh1.''' Naka'A logical improvement on Nakamura's 11.Kh1. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'A logical improvement on Nakamura's 11. Kh1.' Deviating from Nakamura-Carlsen, Online Rapid Lindores Abbey 2020'' mura's 11.Kh1.'' 'Deviating from Nakamura-Carlsen, Online Rapid Lindores Abbey 2020 Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Deviating from Nakamura-Carlsen, Online Rapid Lindores Abbey 2020'''

[Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'where White played'' where White played Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'where White played'' 11.Kh1 (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: '?' '?' '?' '?' ''Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '?' and got hit by' Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '?' '?''' ?''Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '?' and got hit by'' and got hit by Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'and got hit by'' f5! 12.Rg1

Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V" h5! 13.Nc3 f4 14.Bd2 g5 with a decisive advantage for Black in Nakamura,H (2736)-Carlsen,M (2863) chess24.com INT 2020 Mikhalevski,V: 'with a decisive advantage for Black in Nakamura,H (2736)-Carlsen,M (2863) chess24.com INT 2020 Giri,Anish: 'with a decisive advantage for Black in Nakamura,H (2736)-Carlsen,M (2863) chess24.com INT 2020"]

[11.-- (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish' f5! 12.exf5 e4! Mikhalevski,V: 'when after 13.dxe4 there is now 13... ♕xd1 with the f3 knight falling.' when after 13.dxe4 there is now 13... ♕xd1 with the f3 knight falling. Mikhalevski, V: 'Giri,Anish: 'when after 13.dxe4 there is now 13... ♕xd1 with the f3 knight falling."]

'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now the king protects the f3 knight, making sure the d1 queen is ready to get out of the pin.'" 'Now the king protects the f3 knight, making sure the d1 queen is ready to get out of the pin. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now the king protects the f3 knight, making sure the d1 queen is ready to get out of the pin.'" **11...f5** White should prevent ...0-0.'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'An important move. Otherwis'An important move. Otherwise Black is worse. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'An important move. Otherwise Black is worse." Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'An important move. Otherwise Black is worse.''' e Bl'An important move. Otherwise Black is worse. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'An important move. Otherwise Black is worse.''' ack is worse.'' **12.Qe1** 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White has to un'White has to unpin the f3-knight. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White has to unpin the f3-knight.' The point, now there no longer is that nasty g4-d1 pin and that issue is gone.' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White has to unpin the f3-knight.'" pin 'White has to unpin the f3-knight. Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White has to unpin the f3-knight.' The point, now there no longer is that nasty g4-d1 pin and that issue is gone." the f3-knight." 'The point, now there no longer is that nasty g4-d1 pin and that issue is gone. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The point, now there no longer is that nasty g4-d1 pin and that issue is gone.'" **12...Bxf3+** 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black's play 'Black's play is rather forced. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black's play is rather forced." Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black's play is rather forced.'" is 'Black's play is rather forced. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black's play is rather forced.'" rather forced." **13.Kxf3 f4** 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' ''Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Now the character of the position changes once again. Black doesn't really go for a quick attack and White's king, although exposed and far too advanced is quite safe. For the sacrificed piece, Black now gets two strong connected passed pawns on the kingside that he will be able to advance all the way to g3 and h4. ' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!'" !"Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Now the character of the position changes once again. Black doesn't really go for a quick

attack and White's king, although exposed and far too advanced is quite safe. For the sacrificed piece, Black now gets two strong connected passed pawns on the kingside that he will be able to advance all the way to g3 and h4. '' ' 'Now the character of the position changes once again. Black doesn't really go for a quick attack and White's king, although exposed and far too advanced is quite safe. For the sacrificed piece, Black now gets two strong connected passed pawns on the kingside that he will be able to advance all the way to g3 and h4. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now the character of the position changes once again. Black doesn't really go for a quick attack and White's king, although exposed and far too advanced is quite safe. For the sacrificed piece, Black now gets two strong connected passed pawns on the kingside that he will be able to advance all the way to g3 and h4. '" **14.Bd2 g5** 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black has two pawns for a piece and their advance on the kingside should promise enough compensation for the sa'Black has two pawns for a piece and their advance on the kingside should promise enough compensation for the sacrificed material. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski, V: 'Black has two pawns for a piece and their advance on the kingside should promise enough compensation for the sacrificed material.'' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black has two pawns for a piece and their advance on the kingside should promise enough compensation for the sacrificed material.'" crif'Black has two pawns for a piece and their advance on the kingside should promise enough compensation for the sacrificed material. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski, V: 'Black has two pawns for a piece and their advance on the kingside should promise enough compensation for the sacrificed material.'" iced material.'' **15.Bc3** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri attacks the centre and frees the d2-square for his knight.''Giri attack'Giri attacks the centre and frees the d2-square for his knight. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri attacks the centre and frees the d2-square for his knight.'' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri attacks the centre and frees the d2-square for his knight.'" s the centre and frees the d2-square for his knight. Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri attacks the centre and frees the d2-square for his knight.'" ' **15...Bf6** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'There are different ways of playing it, but one way or the other Black needs to first protect his e5-pawn and then push the g- and h-pawns before deciding on what to do next.'" 'There are different ways of playing it, but one way or the other Black needs to first protect his e5-pawn and then push the g- and h-pawns before deciding on what to do next. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'There are different ways of playing it, but one way or the other Black needs to first protect his e5-pawn and then push the g- and h-pawns before deciding on what to do next.'" **16.Nd2 Qe7** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'A slight inaccuracy. Now Black can't start with advancing the g-pawn to g4 and then castling long. He will have to start with castling, although it should still be ok for Black.''A slight in'A slight inaccuracy. Now Black can't start with advancing the g-pawn to g4 and then castling long. He will have to start with castling, although

it should still be ok for Black. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'A slight inaccuracy. Now Black can't start with advancing the g-pawn to g4 and then castling long. He will have to start with castling, although it should still be ok for Black.'' Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'A slight inaccuracy. Now Black can't start with advancing the g-pawn to g4 and then castling long. He will have to start with castling, although it should still be ok for Black.'" accuracy. Now Black can't start with advancing the g-pawn to g4 and then castling long. He will have to start with castling, although it should still be ok for Black. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'A slight inaccuracy. Now Black can't start with advancing the g-pawn to g4 and then castling long. He will have to start with castling, although it should still be ok for Black.'" '

[Mikhalevski,V: 'I felt' I felt Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'I felt'' 16...Qd7 (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: '(Giri,Anish) was more natural, but it is all very subtle.' was more natural, but it is all very subtle. Mikhalevski, V: 'Giri,Anish: 'was more natural, but it is all very subtle."]

[16...h5! (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V'' 17.Rh1 g4+ 18.Ke2 Qd7 19.f3 0-0-0! would be the correct move order. Now the g4-pawn is protected compared to the game and so 20.Qg1 is not a double attack. Mikhalevski,V: 'would be the correct move order. Now the g4-pawn is protected compared to the game and so 20.Qg1 is not a double attack. Giri,Anish: 'would be the correct move order. Now the g4-pawn is protected compared to the game and so 20.Qg1 is not a double attack."]

17.Rh1 h5! 18.Ke2 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'The king eventually hides on e2.''' 'The king eventually hides on e2. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The king eventually hides on e2.''' **18...g4** 'Mikhalevski,V: '?' '?' '?' '?' '?' Mikhalevski,V: 'Now the text is premature as Black won't be able to keep the pawn'Now the text is premature as Black won't be able to keep the pawn on g4 and castle. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '?' Mikhalevski,V: 'Now the text is premature as Black won't be able to keep the pawn on g4 and castle.'' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '?' '?' Mikhalevski,V: 'Now the text is premature as Black won't be able to keep the pawn on g4 and castle.''' on 'Now the text is premature as Black won't be able to keep the pawn on g4 and castle. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '?' Mikhalevski,V: 'Now the text is premature as Black won't be able to keep the pawn on g4 and castle.''' g4 and castle."

[18...0-0-0! (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V'' 19.f3 Rdg8 20.Qg1 b6 21.b4 g4 22.fxg4 hxg4 23.Rxh8 Bxh8 24.a4 f3+ 25.Kd1 Qf6 leads to a position with mutual chances.]

19.f3 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' ''Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!'' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!''' !''Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!''' ' **19...g3** Giri,Anish: '?''Mikhalevski,V: 'After the text White can block the g and h-pawns.''After the text White can block the'After the text White can block the g and h-pawns. Giri, Anish: '?' '?' '?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: 'After the text White can block the g

and h-pawns.' This push is badly timed and Black certainly needs to deviate on this move or one of the preceding ones. I had analysed these structures, but not even in the most favourable scenarios that I looked at, was it possible to block the g- and h-pawns as efficiently as I could do here.' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: 'After the text White can block the g and h-pawns.''' g and h-pawns. Giri, Anish: '?' '?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'After the text White can block the g and h-pawns.' This push is badly timed and Black certainly needs to deviate on this move or one of the preceding ones. I had analysed these structures, but not even in the most favourable scenarios that I looked at, was it possible to block the g- and h-pawns as efficiently as I could do here.'' ' 'This push is badly timed and Black certainly needs to deviate on this move or one of the preceding ones. I had analysed these structures, but not even in the most favourable scenarios that I looked at, was it possible to block the g- and h-pawns as efficiently as I could do here. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'This push is badly timed and Black certainly needs to deviate on this move or one of the preceding ones. I had analysed these structures, but not even in the most favourable scenarios that I looked at, was it possible to block the g- and h-pawns as efficiently as I could do here. '''

[Unfortunately for Black, 19...0-0-0? (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) runs into Mikhalevski,V: 'runs into Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) runs into'' 20.Qg1!± with a double attack on g4 and a7. That's why the queen was better placed on d7. Mikhalevski,V: 'with a double attack on g4 and a7. That's why the queen was better placed on d7. Giri,Anish: 'with a double attack on g4 and a7. That's why the queen was better placed on d7."]

[19...Kf7!? (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski, V) was worth a try. Mikhalevski,V: 'was worth a try. Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) was worth a try."]

20.Kf1 Giri,Anish: '!''Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'The king is heading to g2 and the h1 rook to h3, when the kingside avalanche will be eternally blocked.''' 'The king is heading to g2 and the h1 rook to h3, when the kingside avalanche will be eternally blocked. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The king is heading to g2 and the h1 rook to h3, when the kingside avalanche will be eternally blocked.''' **20...h4N** aiming for ...h3. **21.Rh3** 'Mikhalevski,V: '**±**!' '**±**!' '**±**!' '**±**!' '**±**!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White blocked the pawns and now needs to break through. Meanwhile Black will have to wait a'White blocked the pawns and now needs to break through. Meanwhile Black will have to wait and prepare for White's breaks. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: '**±**!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White blocked the pawns and now needs to break through. Meanwhile Black will have to wait and prepare for White's breaks.'' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: ' **±**!' '**±**!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White blocked the pawns and now needs to break through. Meanwhile Black will have to wait and prepare for White's breaks.''' nd prep'White blocked the pawns and now needs to break through. Meanwhile Black will have to wait and prepare for White's breaks. Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: ' **±**!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White blocked the pawns and now needs to break through. Meanwhile Black will have to wait and prepare for

White's breaks.'" are for White's breaks."
[Of course not Mikhalevski,V: 'Of course not Giri,Anish: 'Of course not" 21.Kg2?? (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V" h3+-+]
21...a5 0.53/22 Giri,Anish: ''!?''Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari restricts White's play on the queenside.''Tari re'Tari restricts White's play on the queenside. Giri,Anish: '!?' '!?' '!?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari restricts White's play on the queenside.' Clever move. Allowing White to expand with b4 would make my play even easier. Now Black is hoping to build a fortress on the queenside.' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari restricts White's play on the queenside. '" stricts White's play on the queenside. Giri,Anish: '!?' '!?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Tari restricts White's play on the queenside.' Clever move. Allowing White to expand with b4 would make my play even easier. Now Black is hoping to build a fortress on the queenside.'' ' 'Clever move. Allowing White to expand with b4 would make my play even easier. Now Black is hoping to build a fortress on the queenside. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Clever move. Allowing White to expand with b4 would make my play even easier. Now Black is hoping to build a fortress on the queenside.'"
[Black should try 21...0-0-0= 0.01/19]
[21...g2+ (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: '(Giri,Anish) looked briefly exciting, but Black doesn't have enough resources to start any initiative.' looked briefly exciting, but Black doesn't have enough resources to start any initiative. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'looked briefly exciting, but Black doesn't have enough resources to start any initiative.'' 22.Kxg2 Rg8+ 23.Kh2 0-0-0 24.Qf1 Mikhalevski,V: 'and at first I was somewhat concerned about .. ♖g3, ... ♖dg8 and ... ♕g7 ideas, but as soon as I saw the strong redeployment ♘b3-c1-e2 I realised that Black has got no real ideas along the g-file at all.' and at first I was somewhat concerned about .. ♖g3, ... ♖dg8 and ... ♕g7 ideas, but as soon as I saw the strong redeployment ♘b3-c1-e2 I realised that Black has got no real ideas along the g-file at all. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'and at first I was somewhat concerned about .. ♖g3, ... ♖dg8 and ... ♕g7 ideas, but as soon as I saw the strong redeployment ♘b3-c1-e2 I realised that Black has got no real ideas along the g-file at all."]
22.a4± b6 Giri,Anish: '?!"Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: '?!' '?!' Giri,Anish: 'Just going for a fortress, but it is likely to be broken eventually.'' Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: '?!' '?!' '?!' Giri,Anish: 'Just going for a fortress, but it is likely to be broken eventually.'" 'Just going for a fortress, but it is likely to be broken eventually. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Just going for a fortress, but it is likely to be broken eventually.'"
[22...b5! (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: '(Giri,Anish) was the desperate resource Black needed. Opening of the position could give Black quite some chances, as White's rook is stranded on h3, and will not be able to participate in the upcoming action.' was the desperate resource Black needed. Opening of the position could

give Black quite some chances, as White's rook is stranded on h3, and will not be able to participate in the upcoming action. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: 'was the desperate resource Black needed. Opening of the position could give Black quite some chances, as White's rook is stranded on h3, and will not be able to participate in the upcoming action.'' 23.Nb3 b4 24.Bd2 c5 Mikhalevski,V: 'This would be a more proactive defence, intending also ...c4!? at the right moment, opening the d-file. Again, the issue for White is that once things get concrete, the rook on h3 will be out of play.' This would be a more proactive defence, intending also ... c4!? at the right moment, opening the d-file. Again, the issue for White is that once things get concrete, the rook on h3 will be out of play. Mikhalevski, V: 'Giri,Anish: 'This would be a more proactive defence, intending also ... c4!? at the right moment, opening the d-file. Again, the issue for White is that once things get concrete, the rook on h3 will be out of play.'']

23.Kg2 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now we enter a new phase. Things are clearly stabilising and the only question is whether White can break through on the queenside or the centre. It is certainly to White's advantage that he got to block the kingside pawns with the king and the rook and the rest of the pieces are free. Still, winning is not that easy, as opening the position at the wrong moment may allow counterplay and while the kingside pawns are blocked safely, the rook on h3 is not going to be able to contribute to the action. That said, this is still the best blockading setup White can get, so I felt good about the developments in the game so far.''' 'Now we enter a new phase. Things are clearly stabilising and the only question is whether White can break through on the queenside or the centre. It is certainly to White's advantage that he got to block the kingside pawns with the king and the rook and the rest of the pieces are free. Still, winning is not that easy, as opening the position at the wrong moment may allow counterplay and while the kingside pawns are blocked safely, the rook on h3 is not going to be able to contribute to the action. That said, this is still the best blockading setup White can get, so I felt good about the developments in the game so far. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now we enter a new phase. Things are clearly stabilising and the only question is whether White can break through on the queenside or the centre. It is certainly to White's advantage that he got to block the kingside pawns with the king and the rook and the rest of the pieces are free. Still, winning is not that easy, as opening the position at the wrong moment may allow counterplay and while the kingside pawns are blocked safely, the rook on h3 is not going to be able to contribute to the action. That said, this is still the best blockading setup White can get, so I felt good about the developments in the game so far.'''

23...c5 **24.Qb1** 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!'' 'Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!'' Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!''' !''Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!''' ' **24...Kf7**

[24...Qe6!? (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski, V) covering the light squares is a good alternative. Mikhalevski,V:

'covering the light squares is a good alternative. Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski, V) covering the light squares is a good alternative.'' Mikhalevski,V: 'covering the light squares is a good alternative. Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski, V) covering the light squares is a good alternative.' Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) covering the light squares is a good alternative."]

25.b3 0.26/22 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri vacates the b2-square for his queen. ''Giri vacate'Giri vacates the b2-square for his queen. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri vacates the b2-square for his queen. ' I could have also sent the queen to c4 first, but I was concerned with c6-b5 counterplay. In fact the queen will get outside the pawn chain eventually anyway, even though now it seems quite far away.' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri vacates the b2-square for his queen.''' s the b2-square for his queen. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri vacates the b2-square for his queen.' I could have also sent the queen to c4 first, but I was concerned with c6-b5 counterplay. In fact the queen will get outside the pawn chain eventually anyway, even though now it seems quite far away." ' 'I could have also sent the queen to c4 first, but I was concerned with c6-b5 counterplay. In fact the queen will get outside the pawn chain eventually anyway, even though now it seems quite far away. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'I could have also sent the queen to c4 first, but I was concerned with c6-b5 counterplay. In fact the queen will get outside the pawn chain eventually anyway, even though now it seems quite far away. '"

[25.Nc4± 0.69/23]

[25.Qa2+ (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) looks better, although after Mikhalevski,V: 'looks better, although after Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) looks better, although after'' Qe6 26.Nc4 Ke7 27.Qb3 Rh5 28.Rah1 Rd8 29.Qb5 Ra8 it's difficult for White to find a break.]

25...Rad8 26.Nc4 Kg6 27.Qb2 Rh5 28.Rah1 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The most natural first step, to pin down all Black's pieces to defend against the ♗xe5 tactic.'" 'The most natural first step, to pin down all Black's pieces to defend against the ♗xe5 tactic. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The most natural first step, to pin down all Black's pieces to defend against the ♗xe5 tactic. '" **28...Rdh8** 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black protects the h4-pawn and avoids any'Black protects the h4-pawn and avoids any sacrifices on e5. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski, V: 'Black protects the h4-pawn and avoids any sacrifices on e5." Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black protects the h4-pawn and avoids any sacrifices on e5.''' sac'Black protects the h4-pawn and avoids any sacrifices on e5. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black protects the h4-pawn and avoids any sacrifices on e5. '" rifices on e5."

[After 28...Rf8 (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) Black needs to consider Mikhalevski,V: 'Black needs to consider Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski, V) Black needs to consider'' 29.Nxe5+ Rxe5 30.Bxe5 Bxe5 31.c3 Bf6 32.d4± It may not be dangerous for Black, but it's unnecessary for him to even allow it. Mikhalevski,V: 'It may not be dangerous for Black, but it's

unnecessary for him to even allow it. Giri,Anish: 'It may not be dangerous for Black, but it's unnecessary for him to even allow it."]

29.Qa1 Kg7 30.Bb2 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The bishop is better placed here, not in the way of c3-d4 break, which seems like the only idea. Or does it.'" 'The bishop is better placed here, not in the way of c3-d4 break, which seems like the only idea. Or does it. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The bishop is better placed here, not in the way of c3-d4 break, which seems like the only idea. Or does it.''' **30...Kg6 31.Qb1** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Anish doesn't see a plan and just wants to reach the time control. "Anish doesn't see a plan and just wants to reach the time control. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Anish doesn't see a plan and just wants to reach the time control.' It is fine to waste a few moves, when the opponent has no play at all." ' 'It is fine to waste a few moves, when the opponent has no play at all. Mikhalevski, V: 'Giri,Anish: 'It is fine to waste a few moves, when the opponent has no play at all.'" **31...Rd8 32.Qe1** -0.01/19

[32.Qc1± 0.62/21]

32...Kg7 1.05/20

[32...Bg7!= -0.01/19 remains equal.]

33.Qa1 0.71/21

[⌓33.Qc1 1.05/20]

33...Rdh8± 34.Na3 'Mikhalevski,V: '!?' '!?' '!?' '!?' '!?' Mikhalevski,V: 'An interesting manoeuvre. T'An interesting manoeuvre. The knight goes to e2. Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!?' Mikhalevski,V: 'An interesting manoeuvre. The knight goes to e2.' I decided to reroute the knight to e2, before going for the pawn break.' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!?' '!?' Mikhalevski,V: 'An interesting manoeuvre. The knight goes to e2.'" he kn'An interesting manoeuvre. The knight goes to e2. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!?' Mikhalevski,V: 'An interesting manoeuvre. The knight goes to e2.' I decided to reroute the knight to e2, before going for the pawn break." ight goes to e2." 'I decided to reroute the knight to e2, before going for the pawn break. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'I decided to reroute the knight to e2, before going for the pawn break.''' **34...Kg6 35.Nb5** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'White tries to provoke 35...c6 in order to weaken the b6-pawn."White tries'White tries to provoke 35...c6 in order to weaken the b6-pawn. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'White tries to provoke 35...c6 in order to weaken the b6-pawn. " Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'White tries to provoke 35...c6 in order to weaken the b6-pawn.'" to provoke 35...c6 in order to weaken the b6-pawn. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'White tries to provoke 35...c6 in order to weaken the b6-pawn.'" ' **35...Bg7** Giri,Anish: '?"Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: '?' '?' Giri,Anish: 'Black is just waiting, but he does so in a rather clumsy manner. The bishop should stay on f6, where it guards the h4 pawn, in case the rooks need to quickly shift back to the centre." Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: '?' '?' '?' Giri,Anish: 'Black is just waiting, but he does so in a rather clumsy manner. The bishop should stay on f6, where it guards the h4 pawn, in case the rooks need to quickly shift back to the centre.'" 'Black is just waiting, but he does so in a rather clumsy manner. The bishop should stay on f6, where it guards the h4 pawn, in case the rooks need to quickly shift back to the centre. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish:

'Black is just waiting, but he does so in a rather clumsy manner. The bishop should stay on f6, where it guards the h4 pawn, in case the rooks need to quickly shift back to the centre. '" **36.Nc3 Qd8 37.Ne2** Black must now prevent Nxf4+!'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White brought the knight to e2 in order to create a threat of 38. Nxf4. So, Black protects the g7-b'White brought the knight to e2 in order to create a threat of 38.Nxf4. So, Black protects the g7-bishop by means of Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White brought the knight to e2 in order to create a threat of 38.Nxf4. So, Black protects the g7-bishop by means of' The knight is doing a great job on e2, hitting the f4 pawn once c3-d4 break happens.' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White brought the knight to e2 in order to create a threat of 38. Nxf4. So, Black protects the g7-bishop by means of'" isho'White brought the knight to e2 in order to create a threat of 38.Nxf4. So, Black protects the g7-bishop by means of Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'White brought the knight to e2 in order to create a threat of 38.Nxf4. So, Black protects the g7-bishop by means of' The knight is doing a great job on e2, hitting the f4 pawn once c3-d4 break happens." p by means of'' 'The knight is doing a great job on e2, hitting the f4 pawn once c3-d4 break happens. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The knight is doing a great job on e2, hitting the f4 pawn once c3-d4 break happens.'"

[37.Nd5 (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) doesn't seem to do much and can be answered by means of Mikhalevski,V: 'doesn't seem to do much and can be answered by means of Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) doesn't seem to do much and can be answered by means of" Bf6!]

37...R8h7 38.Qe1 Giri,Anish: '!?''Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'The next attempt is to bring the queen into Black's camp."The nex'The next attempt is to bring the queen into Black's camp. Giri,Anish: '!?' '!?' '!?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'The next attempt is to bring the queen into Black's camp.' I suddenly realised that I may activate the queen first, before deciding on the c3-d4 plan, which was quite good as well, after the preparatory ♕b1, for example.' Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' Mikhalevski, V: 'The next attempt is to bring the queen into Black's camp.'" t attempt is to bring the queen into Black's camp. Giri,Anish: '!?' '!?' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' Mikhalevski,V: 'The next attempt is to bring the queen into Black's camp.' I suddenly realised that I may activate the queen first, before deciding on the c3-d4 plan, which was quite good as well, after the preparatory ♕b1, for example." ' 'I suddenly realised that I may activate the queen first, before deciding on the c3-d4 plan, which was quite good as well, after the preparatory ♕ b1, for example. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'I suddenly realised that I may activate the queen first, before deciding on the c3-d4 plan, which was quite good as well, after the preparatory ♕b1, for example. '"

[38.Qb1 (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish']

38...Qd6 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Black had to bring the bishop back to f6 before it was too late.'" 'Black had to

bring the bishop back to f6 before it was too late. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Black had to bring the bishop back to f6 before it was too late. '" **39.Qc3 c6** 1.77/22 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Unnecessarily weakening the b6-pawn.''Unnecessarily weakening the b6-pawn. Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Unnecessarily weakening the b6-pawn.'" '

[39...Qe6± 0.77/19 was worth a try. '(Mikhalevski,V) would be safer, to stop 40.Qc4. However, after Mikhalevski,V: 'would be safer, to stop 40.Qc4. However, after Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) would be safer, to stop 40.Qc4. However, after'" 40.Bc1 Giri,Anish Qf7 41.Qb2 Rh8 42.c3 White has chances to break through by means of 43.d4.]

40.Qc4+- 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now not only is c3-d4 a deadly threat, as White is perfectly mobilised, but it is also that Black's pieces are badly placed.'" 'Now not only is c3-d4 a deadly threat, as White is perfectly mobilised, but it is also that Black's pieces are badly placed. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now not only is c3-d4 a deadly threat, as White is perfectly mobilised, but it is also that Black's pieces are badly placed. '" **40...Rh8** Against Qg8

[40...Bf6 (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: '(Giri,Anish) is met with' is met with Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'is met with'' 41.Qg8+]

41.Ba3 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The natural c3-d4 would break the position, but I felt things can get a little messy with my rook stuck on h3, as the d-file comes open. After some thinking I realised that I can get a better version of those things if I start with this clever move. Now I threaten the immediate d4. '" 'The natural c3-d4 would break the position, but I felt things can get a little messy with my rook stuck on h3, as the d-file comes open. After some thinking I realised that I can get a better version of those things if I start with this clever move. Now I threaten the immediate d4. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'The natural c3-d4 would break the position, but I felt things can get a little messy with my rook stuck on h3, as the d-file comes open. After some thinking I realised that I can get a better version of those things if I start with this clever move. Now I threaten the immediate d4.'"

[41.c3!? (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) was already possible. For example, Mikhalevski,V: 'was already possible. For example, Giri,Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) was already possible. For example, '' b5 42.axb5 cxb5 43.Qxb5 Rb8 44.Qc4 Qb6 45.Nc1 Bf6 46.Ba3+- and White should be able to win.]

41...Qf6 2.07/21

[41...Bf6± 1.52/20

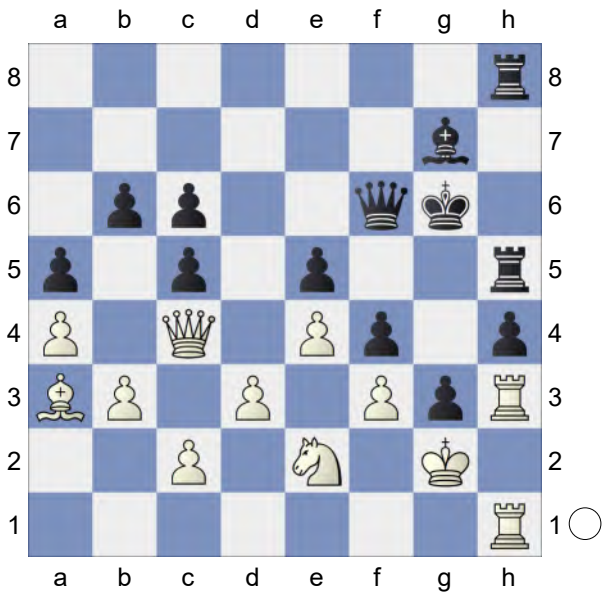
A) 42.c3! (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V'' R8h7 43.d4 exd4 *(or 43...Rh8 44.Bc1!+-* and Black is unable to stop 45.Bxf4 with 46.e5 to follow.*)* 44.cxd4 Bxd4 45.Rd1+-;

B) 42.d4! (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish' 42...exd4 Mikhalevski,V: 'and now many ways, but the most esthetically pleasing finish is' and now many ways, but the most esthetically pleasing finish is Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'and now many ways, but the most esthetically pleasing finish is'' 43.Nc1!? Mikhalevski,V: 'rerouting the knight to the newly created

outpost on d3. Black's position would collapse there, as f4 pawn falls, e4-e5 push is in the air and Black's pawn mass is static and useless.' rerouting the knight to the newly created outpost on d3. Black's position would collapse there, as f4 pawn falls, e4-e5 push is in the air and Black's pawn mass is static and useless. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'rerouting the knight to the newly created outpost on d3. Black's position would collapse there, as f4 pawn falls, e4-e5 push is in the air and Black's pawn mass is static and useless."]

[41...Qd7 (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: '(Giri,Anish) I felt was the toughest defense, when I intended' I felt was the toughest defense, when I intended Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'I felt was the toughest defense, when I intended'' 42.Bc1 Qd6 Mikhalevski,V: 'and now that I got Bb2-Bc1 move for free, the c3-d4 push would come in an even better version.' and now that I got Bb2-Bc1 move for free, the c3-d4 push would come in an even better version. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'and now that I got Bb2-Bc1 move for free, the c3-d4 push would come in an even better version."]

(Diagram)



'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now the b6 pawn is left unattended.'" 'Now the b6 pawn is left unattended. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Now the b6 pawn is left unattended.'" **42.Qa6!** 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: '!' '!'' Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: '!' '!' '!''' **42...Rb8** 2.97/22 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Black is completely uncoordinated. I found the cleanest win here.'" 'Black is completely uncoordinated. I found the cleanest win here. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Black is completely uncoordinated. I found the cleanest win here. '"

[⌓42...Qd8 1.90/19 43.Qb7 Kh7]

43.Bc1 Giri,Anish: '!''Mikhalevski,V: '!?' '!?' '!?' '!?' '!?''Giri,Anish: '!' ''Giri, Anish: '!' '!' '!' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski, V: '!?' Again, postponing c3-d4 and aiming to get the best version of it.' Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!?' '!?'" !' Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!?' Again, postponing c3-d4 and aiming to get the best version of it.'' ' 'Again, postponing c3-d4 and aiming to get the best version of it. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Again, postponing c3-d4 and aiming to get the best version of it.'"

[The immediate 43.Qa7! (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) was also strong, with the idea to meet Qd8 with 44.Bc1! Now the threat is 45. Bxf4, while after]

43...Bh6 3.15/18

[⌓43...Bf8 2.00/18 44.Qa7 Bd6]

44.Qa7 Giri,Anish: '!''Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri, Anish: '!' '!'' Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: '!' '!' '!''' **44...Qd8** 8.20/24 'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'And now the silent final blow. ''' 'And now the silent final blow. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'And now the silent final blow.'"

[44...Rc8 3.33/18 45.Qxb6 Bf8]

45.Bb2 Giri,Anish: '!''Mikhalevski,V: '+-!' '+-' '+-!' '+-' '+-!' '+-' '+-!' '+-' '+-!' '+-' Mikhalevski,V: 'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Bl'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Black is helpless. Giri,Anish: '!' '!' '!' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '+-!' '+-' Mikhalevski,V: 'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Black is helpless.' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black is unable to stop 46.Bxe5, as'' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '+-!' '+-' '+-!' '+-' Mikhalevski,V: 'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Black is helpless.' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black is unable to stop 46.Bxe5, as' Mikhalevski, V: '+-' Mikhalevski,V: 'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Black is helpless.''' ack is 'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Black is helpless. Giri,Anish: '!' '!' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '+-!' '+-' Mikhalevski,V: 'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Black is helpless.' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black is unable to stop 46.Bxe5, as''' helpless.' Mikhalevski,V: 'Black is unable to stop 46.Bxe5, as' Mikhalevski, V: '+-' Mikhalevski,V: 'White basically transposed to 43.Qa7! Now Black is helpless."

[Mikhalevski,V: 'As I had thought more and more about this position, I realized' As I had thought more and more about this position, I realized Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'As I had thought more and more about this position, I realized'' 45.Nxg3! (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski,V: '(Giri, Anish) would have also won, though in a very different way.' would have also won, though in a very different way. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'would have also won, though in a very different way."]

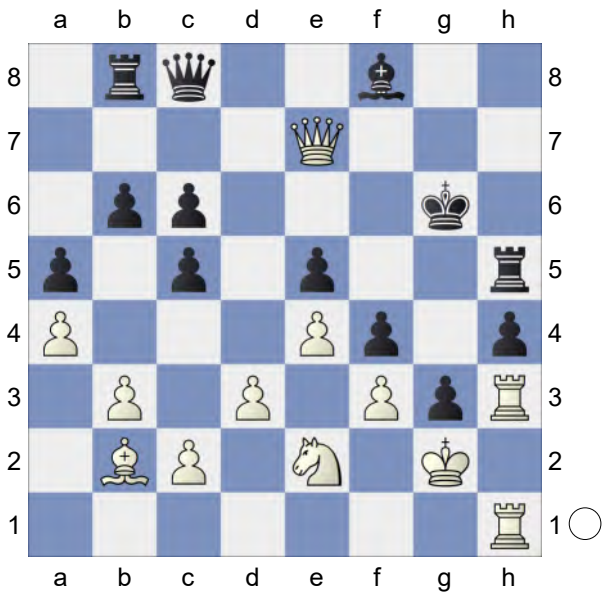
'Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Here, there is suddenly no defence against ♗xe5 and ♗g7 is met with ♘xf4. Black can just resign.''' 'Here, there is suddenly no defence against ♗xe5 and ♗g7 is met with ♘xf4. Black can just resign. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Here, there is suddenly no defence against ♗xe5 and ♗g7 is met with ♘xf4. Black can just resign.'" **45...Qc8**

[45...Bg7 (Giri,Anish) (Mikhalevski,V) runs into Mikhalevski,V: 'runs into Giri, Anish: '(Mikhalevski,V) runs into'' 46.Nxf4++-]

46.Qe7 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!' '!' '!' "Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!'' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!' '!''' !''Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: '!'" ' **46...Bf8**

[or 46...Qd8 (Giri,Anish) Mikhalevski, V Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V'' 47.Qe6+ Qf6 48.Qg4+ Bg5 49.Rxh4+-]

(Diagram)



47.Nxf4+! Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0. 40'Mikhalevski,V: 'White has achieved his ideal position and eventually broke through. Good opening preparation and clever manoeuvring allowed the Dutch GM to win comfortably. Black can improve his play by means of 16...h5, when he seems to have sufficient compensation for the sacrificed piece. It means that the line with 6...Bg4 is perfectly playable.''White has a'White has achieved his ideal position and eventually broke through. Good opening preparation and clever manoeuvring allowed the Dutch GM to win comfortably. Black can improve his play by means of 16...h5, when he seems to have sufficient compensation for the sacrificed piece. It means that the line with 6...Bg4 is perfectly playable. Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'White has achieved his ideal position and eventually broke through. Good opening preparation and clever manoeuvring allowed the Dutch GM to win comfortably. Black can improve his play by means of 16...h5, when he seems to have sufficient compensation for the sacrificed piece. It means that the line with 6...Bg4 is perfectly playable.' I thought it was quite remarkable that it was possible to win this position without any pawn breakthroughs, but mostly I was just happy to get off to a good start. ' Giri,Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'White has achieved his ideal position and eventually broke through. Good opening preparation and clever manoeuvring allowed the Dutch GM to win comfortably. Black can improve his play by means of 16...h5, when he seems to have sufficient compensation for the sacrificed piece. It means that the line with 6...Bg4 is perfectly playable.''' chieved his ideal position and eventually broke through. Good opening preparation and clever manoeuvring allowed the Dutch GM to win comfortably. Black can improve his play by means of 16...h5, when he seems to have sufficient compensation for the sacrificed piece. It means that the line with 6...Bg4 is perfectly playable. Giri, Anish: 'Mikhalevski,V: 'White has achieved his ideal position and eventually broke through. Good opening preparation and clever manoeuvring allowed the Dutch GM to win comfortably. Black can improve his play by means of 16...h5, when he seems to have sufficient compensation for the sacrificed piece. It means that the line with 6...Bg4 is perfectly playable.' I thought it was quite remarkable that it was possible to win this position without any pawn breakthroughs, but mostly I was just happy to get off to a good start. " ' 'I thought it was quite remarkable that it was possible to win this position without any pawn breakthroughs, but

mostly I was just happy to get off to a good start. Mikhalevski,V: 'Giri,Anish: 'I thought it was quite remarkable that it was possible to win this position without any pawn breakthroughs, but mostly I was just happy to get off to a good start. '''

1-0

255 **C65**
□ **Pranav,V..** **2548**
■ **Duda,Jan Krzysztof** **2731**
Speed Chess Q1 blitz (14) 10.11.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.Na3** is recently more successful than 8.Bg5. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 8.Lg5. **8...c6 9.Ba4** The position is equal. **9...0-0**

[9...d6 10.Bb3 *(10.Bc2 Be6 11.Qe2 Qe7 12.Nc4 Bc7 13.f4 Bxc4 14.dxc4 h5 15.fxe5 Ng4 16.exd6 Bxd6 17.Bf4 0-0-0 18.e5 Nxe5 19.Rae1 f6 20.b4 Kb8 21.c5 Bc7 22.Kh1 Qd7 23.h3 h4 24.a4 Rhe8* So,W (2757)-Lazavik,D (2578) Chess.com INT 2024 ½-½ (43) *)* 10...a5 11.Nc4 Bc7 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 g5 14.Bg3 h5 15.f3 Be6 16.Ne3 h4 17.Bf2 d5 18.Re1 Kf8 19.h3 Bb6 20.Qc2 Nh5 21.d4 exd4 22.cxd4 Nf4 23.Ng4 a4 24.Bxa4 10.?a3 b6 11.ba5 ?h5_7469 (2760)-Deslandes,P (2811) Palma de Mallorca 2015 LEX-CD [FS1981/67] ½-½ (41)]

10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 d5!? Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. **12.Re1N** -0.24/20

[Vorgänger: 12.exd5 cxd5 13.Re1 *(13.Bb3 g5 14.Bg3 Re8 15.Re1 Bc7 16.Nc2 Bg4 17.Qd2 d4 18.h3 Bf5 19.Ba4 Bd7 20.Bxd7 dxc3 21.Qxc3 Nxd7 22.d4 Rc8 23.Qb3 Ba5 24.Re2 exd4 25.Rxe8+ Qxe8 26.Nxd4 Nc5 27.Qf3 Qe4* Torres Sanchez,J-Machado Escanio,M Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 200 Traps In The Opening [John Watson] (69) *28.Nf5 Qxf3 29.gxf3 Rd8 30.Nxh6+ Kg7 31.Nf5+ Kg6 32.Nd6 Bb6 33.Nc4 Ne6 34.Re1 Bd4 35.b3 Rd5 36.Kf1 Bc5 37.Re2 a6 38.Rd2 Rxd2 39.Nxd2 f5 40.Bb8 f4 41.Ne4 Be7 42.Ba7 Kh5* Topalov,V (2785)-Andreikin,D (2709) Khanty Mansiysk 2014 CI1-130 [Tadic,Branko] (69) *43.Bb6 Kh4 44.Kg2 Bd8 45.Bc5 Kh5 46.Bd6 Kh4 47.Bb4 Kh5 48.Ba3 Kg6 49.Kf1 Kh5 50.Bb4 Kg6 51.Nd2 Kh5 52.Nc4 Bc7 53.Be7 Kh4 54.Kg2 Bd8 55.Bb4 Bc7 56.Nd2 Kh5 57.Ne4 Bd8* Chapter-Games Game 3 (69)*)* 13...g5 14.Bg3 Bg4 15.Qd2 e4 16.Bb3 Re8 17.Nb5 Nh5 18.dxe4 Nxg3 19.hxg3 ½-½ (77) Vallejo Pons,F (2703)-Navara,D (2681) Prague 2022]

[⌓12.exd5 0.16/19 cxd5 13.Re1]

12...dxe4= 13.dxe4 Qe7 14.Nc4 Bc7 15.Bc2 Rd8

[15...g5!? 16.Bg3 Rd8=]

16.Qf3 -1.14/22

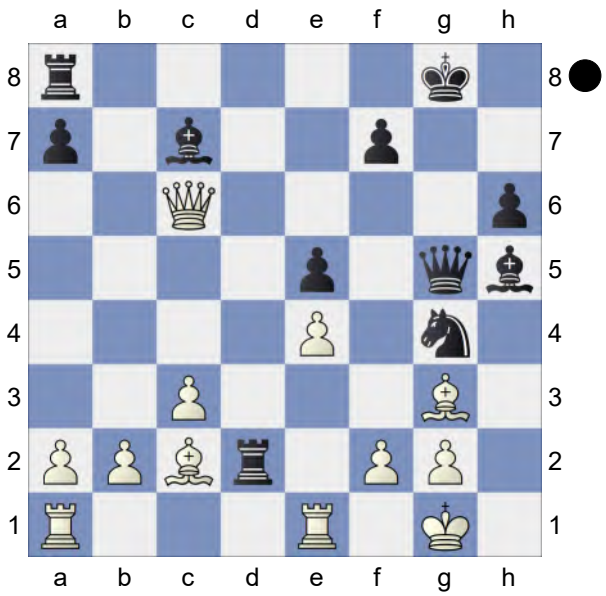
[16.Qe2= 0.02/21]

16...g5!∓ 17.Bg3 Bg4 18.Qe3 b5↑ Black has strong initiative. **19.h3 Bh5 20.h4?** -4.85/23 **bxc4 21.hxg5 Ng4 22.Qe2** -8.14/22

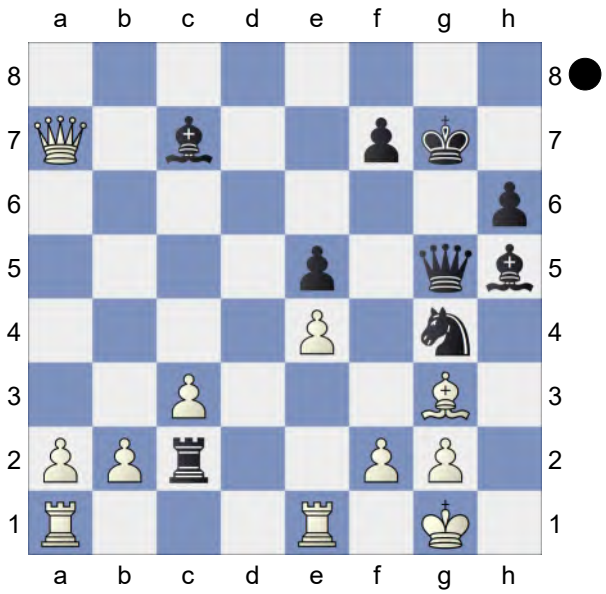
[⌓22.Qc1 -4.15/22]

22...Qxg5-+ 23.Qxc4 Rd2 24.Qxc6

(Diagram)

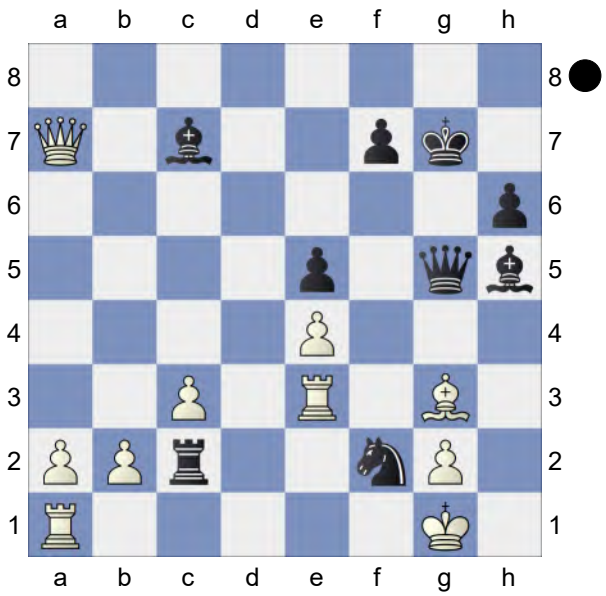


Rxc2! -6.20/25 **25.Qxa8+**
[25.Qxc7 Nxf2]
25...Kg7 (→ ...Nxf2!). Active counter play! **26.Qxa7**

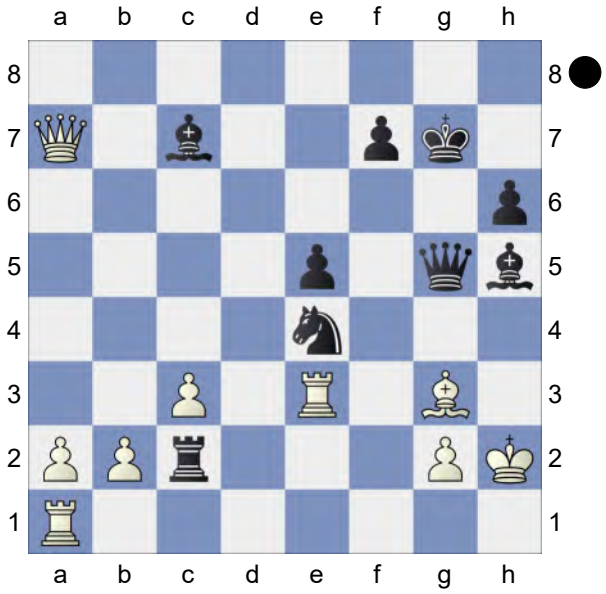


Nxf2! 27.Re3
[27.Rac1 Rxb2]

(Diagram)

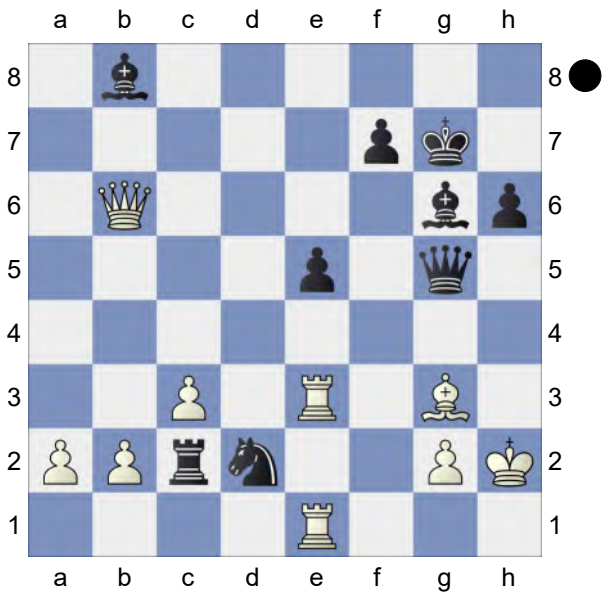


27...Nxe4 28.Kh2



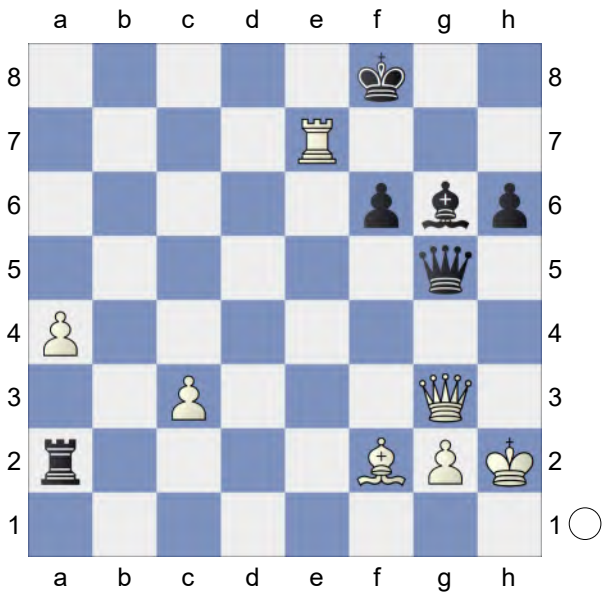
Bb8! 29.Qb6
[29.Qxb8 Qxe3]
29...Bg6 30.Rf1 Nd2? -2.82/21
31.Rfe1

(Diagram)



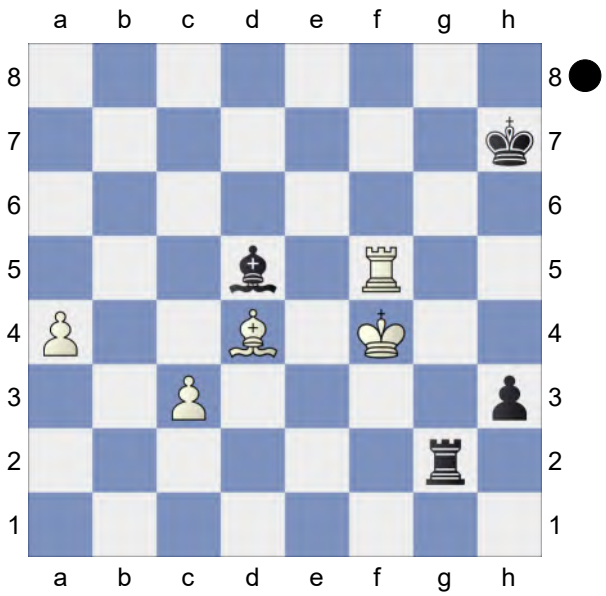
Nc4! 32.Qxb8 Nxe3 Really sharp!
33.Qxe5+ f6? 0.56/22
[Black should try 33...Qxe5-+ -2.69/22 34.Bxe5+ f6 35.Rxe3 fxe5 36.Rxe5 Rxb2]
34.Qxe3 Qd5 1.10/22
[34...Qxe3= 0.30/22 remains equal. 35.Rxe3 Rxb2]
35.Bf2 0.78/22
[⌓35.Qe7+ 1.10/22 Bf7 36.Re4]
35...Rxb2± 36.a4 Ra2 37.Qg3 0.36/22 Prevents Qd6.
[37.Qf4± 1.14/21]
37...Qg5± 38.Re7+ Bf7!
[Weaker is 38...Kf8

(Diagram)



39.Qd6! Rd2 40.Qc5 Qxc5 41.Bxc5±]
39.Ra7 Kg6 40.Be3 0.01/24
[Better is 40.Qd3+!± 0.54/22 Qf5 41.Qxf5+ *(41.Qg3+ Qg5±)* 41...Kxf5 42.Rxf7 Rxf2 43.a5]
40...Qxg3+= 41.Kxg3 Endgame KRB-KRB **41...Bd5 42.Bf2 h5 43.Bd4 Rxg2+ 44.Kf4?** -3.54/26
[44.Kh3= -0.08/24 and White stays safe.]
44...h4-+ 45.Ra6 h3 Threatens to win with …h2. **46.Rxf6+ Kh7** Hoping for ... h2. **47.Rf5**

(Diagram)



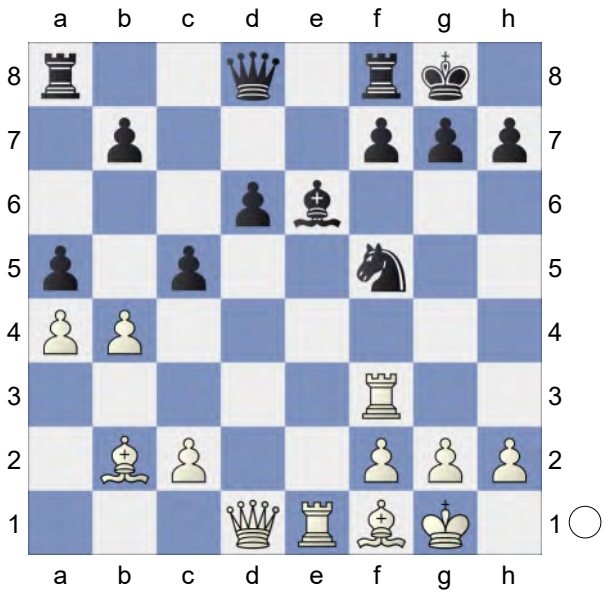
h2! Black is winning. **48.Rh5+ Kg6 49.Rh8 Ra2 50.Rxh2 Rxh2 51.Ke5 Bf3 52.Kd6 Ra2 53.Kc5 Rxa4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.84/ Black=0.48
0-1

256 **C67**
□ **Costa,Leonardo** **2498**
■ **Amin,Bassem** **2652**
Rilton Cup 52nd (9) 05.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4** -0.01/20 White has compensation.
[6.Nxe5± 0.38/19 Be7 7.Bf1]
6...Be7!= 7.Nc3 Prevents e4. **7...a6!** is recently more successful than 7...0-0. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7...0-0.
8.Bf1 Nf5N
[8...e4 9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re1
A) 11...Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.Be2 *(13.c3 d4 14.d3 0-0 15.Be2 Bg6 16.Bf4 Re8 17.Bf1 Qd7 18.Qb3 Na5 19.Qa2 dxc3 20.bxc3 Bd6 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Qd5 Qf5 23.Qxf5* ½-½ Andersen,M (2598)-Howell,D (2677) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (3.8)) 13...0-0 14.d4 Re8 15.Ne5 Bxe2 16.Rxe2 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qd7 18.Qd3 Rad8 19.b3 Qe6 20.Bd2 Qg6 21.f4 f5 22.b4 Qe6 23.c3 c5 24.bxc5 Bxc5+ 25.Be3 Bxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Aronian,L (2789)-Nepomniachtchi,I (2751) Chess.com INT 2017 CBM 183 [Kuzmin,Alexey] 1-0 (48);
B) 11...d4 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Rxe6 fxe6 14.Be4 d3 15.Bxd3 0-0 16.Be4 Nd4 17.d3 Nxf3+ 18.Bxf3 Nihal,S (2651)-Robson,R (2682) Abu Dhabi 2022 Chess Informant 153 [Perunovic,Milos]]
[8...0-0 9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.Rxe5 Ne8 11.Nd5 Bd6 12.Re1 c6 13.Ne3 Be7 14.Nc4 d5 15.Nb6 Qxb6 16.Rxe7 Be6 17.b3 Nd6 18.Ba3 c5 19.d4 Qd8 20.dxc5 Qxe7 21.cxd6 Qf6 22.Bc5 Rfc8 23.b4 Bonacker (2628)-8.♗h4 g6 9.f4 e5 (2624) Wheeling 2023 TD 92\01 [John Watson] 0-1 (45)]
[8...f6 9.d4 Nf7 10.Nd5 d6 11.Bc4 0-0 12.Ra3 *(12.c3 Kh8 13.b4 Be6 14.Bb3 Qd7 15.Rb1 Bd8 16.c4 Ne7 17.Ne3 Nh6 18.c5 Bxb3 19.Qxb3 e4 20.Nd2 d5 21.f4 c6 22.Ndf1 Bc7 23.g3 g5 24.Ng2 Nhf5 25.Qc3 Rg8 26.fxg5 fxg5* 0-1 Swiercz,D (2649)-Dominguez Perez,L (2758) ch-USA 2020 lichess.org INT rapid (11.6)) 12...Kh8 #2 8) 4.O-O Nxe4 5.Re1 & Others-4.O-O Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4]
9.d4N
[9.Nxe5 Nxe5 10.Rxe5 d6 11.Re1 d5 12.d4 0-0 13.Bf4 c6 0.27/19 *(13...Bb4* -0.09/20 deserves

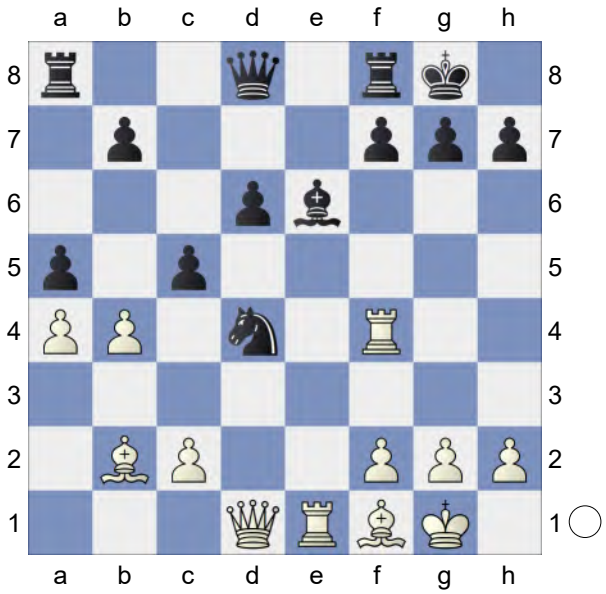
consideration.) 14.Bd3 -0.40/27
(14.Ne2= 0.05/26)
A) 14...Nxd4∓ -0.40/27 15.Bxh7+ Kxh7 16.Qxd4 Re8 (16...b6);
B) 14...a5 0.00/31 15.Ne2! ½-½ Tari,A (2642)-Deac,B (2680) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (4)]

9...Nfxd4 10.Nxe5 d6 11.Nxc6 Nxc6 12.Nd5 And now Qh5 would win.
12...Be6 13.Nxe7 Nxe7 14.b4 0-0 15.Bb2 White has compensation.
15...Nf5 0.50/24
[15...Re8= 0.05/25]
16.Ra3 Black must now prevent Rh3.
16...c5 17.Rf3 a5 0.73/19
[17...cxb4 18.Bd3±]
[17...Qd7± 0.35/22 feels stronger.]



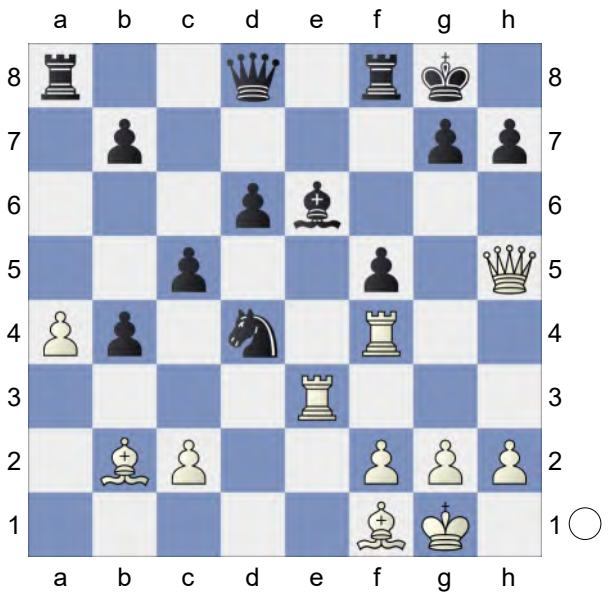
18.Rf4 -0.30/23
[White should play 18.b5!± 0.73/19]
[18.bxc5= 0.26/18 remains equal. dxc5 19.Bd3]
18...Nd4? 1.38/21
[18...cxb4 19.Bd3±]
[18...axb4= -0.30/23 19.Bd3 g6]

(Diagram)



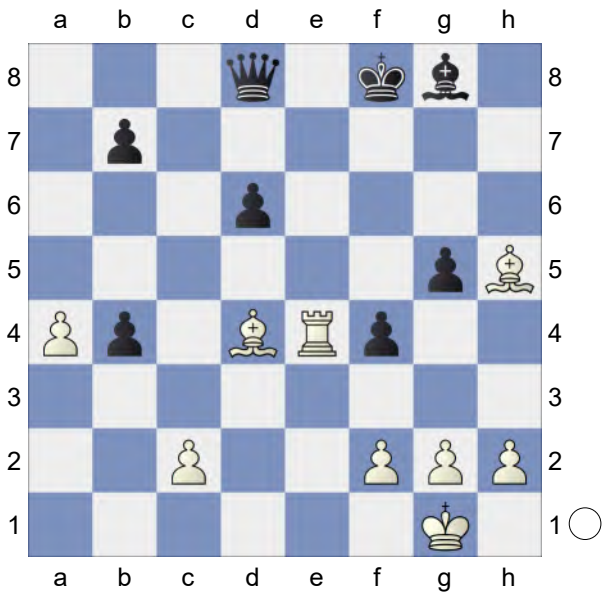
19.Qh5 0.19/25
[19.Bxd4?!± 0.54/20 cxd4
A) 20.Qxd4 axb4 21.Qxb4 Qc7= (21...Qa5±);
B) 20.b5;
C) 20.Bd3 Re8=]
[19.b5!± 1.38/21]
19...axb4=
[19...g6? 20.Qh6+-]
[19...Nxc2? 20.Bd3 g6 21.Qh6+-]
20.Re3→ Strongly threatening Bd3. White is up to no good. **20...f5?** 2.46/23
[20...g6? 21.Qh6 Re8 22.Bb5+- (22.Rh4 Qf6=)]
[20...Rxa4± 0.37/22 21.Bd3 g6]
[20...Nxc2? 21.Bd3 f5 (21...g6? 22.Bxc2 d5 23.Rh4+-) 22.Rxe6+- (22.Bxc2 Rf6+-)]
[20...Kh8= -0.01/20]

(Diagram)



21.Rh4!±
[Worse is 21.Bxd4 Bf7 22.Qxf5 cxd4=]
21...Rf6 3.03/18
[21...Qf6± 1.68/26 keeps fighting.]
22.Qxh7++- Kf8 23.Rxd4 1.43/21
[23.Rg3+- 3.14/19 is more deadly. Rf7 24.Bxd4 cxd4 25.Rxd4]
23...cxd4± 24.Bxd4→ White attacks with force. Re3xe6! would now be deadly.
[24.Rg3 Qc7 25.Qh8+ *(25.Bxd4 Bg8±)* 25...Bg8+-]
24...Bg8 3.87/18
[24...Rc8± 2.04/20 25.g4 *(25.Rg3 Qe7±)* 25...Bg8]
25.Qh5+- Rf7 26.Bc4 f4 27.Re4 Ra5 28.Bxf7 -0.13/26 Chess con chili. This bishop pair is nice. A strong pair of Bishops.
[Better is 28.Bb5+- 3.55/22 b3
A) 29.c4 Rxb5 30.axb5 *(30.cxb5 Qc8±; 30.Qxb5 Bh7±)*;
B) 29.cxb3 Rxb5 30.axb5 Qc8+-]
28...Rxh5= The position is equal.
29.Bxh5 g5 ...Bf7 is the strong threat.

(Diagram)

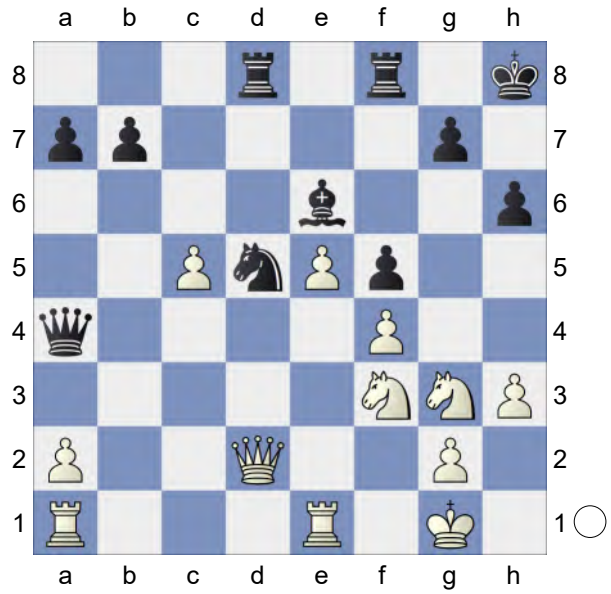


Strongly threatening ...Bg8-f7. **30.Re8+ Qxe8 31.Bxe8 Kxe8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.52/Black=0.41 Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.40
½-½

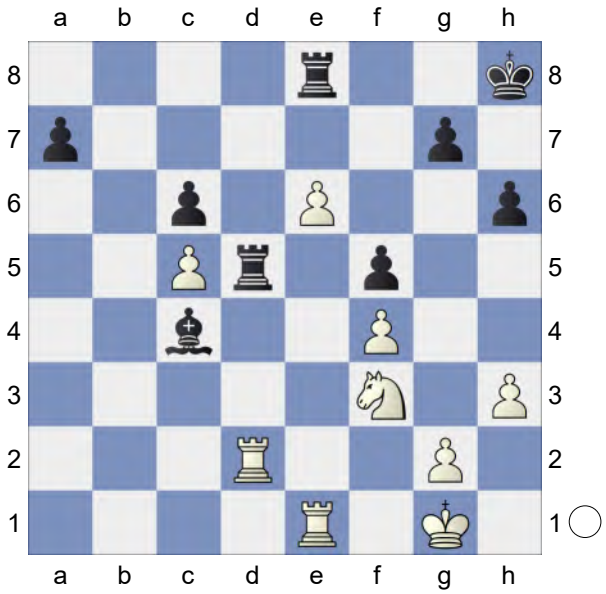
257 **C65**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2723**
■ **Xiong,Jeffery** **2712**
82nd Tata Steel GpA (7.4) 18.01.2020
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.c3 0-0 8.d4 The position is equal. **8...Bd6 9.Bg5 f6 10.Bh4 Qe8 11.Re1 Nb6 12.Bg3 Bg4 13.Nbd2 Kh8 14.Qc2 Rd8 15.h3 Bh5 16.Nh4N**
[16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Nh4 26. Ruy Lopez Anti-Berlin-Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 − 6...]
16...exd4 ...d3! would now be deadly.
17.Bxd6 d3 18.Qxd3 cxd6 19.f4 Bf7 20.Ndf3 Bg8 21.Nd4 c5 0.90/20

[21...Na4± 0.48/20]
22.Ndf5± Qd7 23.b3 0.20/22
[23.Qg3± 0.96/19]
23...d5= 24.e5 Be6 0.73/22
[24...g5± 0.35/22]
25.Ng3 White is more active. **25...f5 26.Nf3↑** White has strong initiative.
26...h6 27.b4 d4 1.39/21
[⌓27...Na4 0.73/20]
28.bxc5± dxc3 29.Qxc3 Nd5 30.Qd2 1.05/21
[⌓30.Qd4 1.53/20]
30...Qa4



31.Ne2 Nb4 32.Ned4 Nc6 33.Rad1 Bxa2 34.Qc3 Repels Bb3
[34.e6 Rfe8= *(34...Nxd4? 35.e7+-)*]
34...Rd5? 2.76/22
[34...Nxd4± 0.91/24 35.Rxd4 *(35.Nxd4 Rd5±)* 35...Rxd4 36.Qxd4 Qxd4+ 37.Nxd4 Bd5]
35.e6+- Re8 36.Rd2 1.26/25
[36.Qb2+- 2.79/21 has better winning chances.]
36...Qc4± 37.Qxc4 Bxc4 38.Nxc6 0.78/25
[⌓38.g4 1.16/25]
38...bxc6
(Diagram)



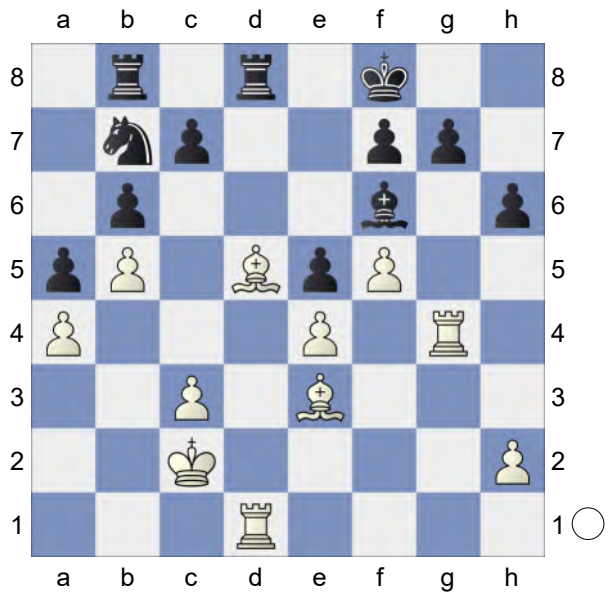
39.Rd4! Bb3 40.Re3 Ba2 41.e7 Kg8 2.48/25
[⌓41...g6 1.65/24]
42.Ra3 1.40/27
[White should play 42.Kf2+- 2.48/25]
42...Rxd4 43.Nxd4 Endgame KRB-KRN
43...Bd5 2.94/27
[⌓43...Bb1 1.74/27 44.Nxc6 *(44.Rxa7 Be4±)* 44...Be4]
44.Nxf5+-
[44.Rxa7 g6±]
44...g6 45.Nxh6+ Kg7 46.Ng4 Rxe7 47.Ne3 Be4 48.Kf2 Rd7 49.Nc4 Rb7 4.44/25
[⌓49...Rd3 3.01/23 50.Rxa7+ Kf6]
50.g4 Bd5 51.Ne3 Rb2+ 52.Kg3 Rb3 53.Rxa7+ Kf6? 4.86/27
[53...Kf8 2.85/27]
54.Kf2 Rb2+ 55.Kf1 Strongly threatening Nxd5+.
[55.Kg3 Rb3 56.Kf2 Rb2+ 57.Ke1 Bf3 58.g5+ Ke6±]
55...Be4 56.Rd7 White is clearly winning. **56...Rh2 57.Rd4 Bf3 58.Rd6+ Kg7 59.f5 gxf5 60.Nxf5+ Kf7** 8.22/23
[⌓60...Kg8 5.02/25 61.g5 Be4]
61.g5 Bh5 62.Rf6+
[62.Rxc6 Rxh3 63.Rf6+ Kg8+-]

62...Kg8 63.g6
[63.Rxc6 Rxh3 64.Ke1 Rf3+-]
63...Rxh3 64.Ne7+
[64.Rxc6 Rf3+ 65.Ke2 Rxf5+ 66.Ke3 Kg7∓]
64...Kh8 65.Rf8+
[Not 65.Rxc6 Rf3+ 66.Kg2 Kg7±]
[65.Nxc6 Kg7 66.Rd6 Bxg6±]
65...Kg7 66.Rf7+ Kh6 67.Rh7+
[Stronger than 67.Nxc6 Kxg6 68.Ne5+ Kg5=]
67...Kg5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.32 **68.g7**
[68.Nxc6 Rf3+ 69.Ke1 Bxg6=]
1-0

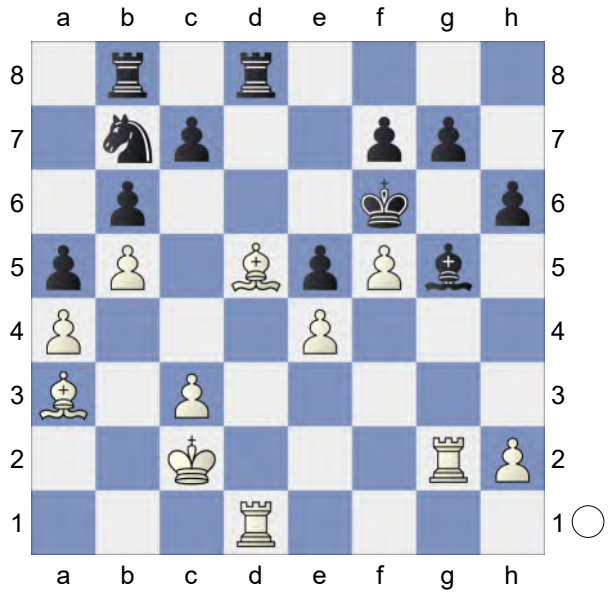
258 **C65**
□ **Matlakov,M.** **2682**
■ **Goryachkina,A.** **2602**
74th ch-RUS 2021 (10.1) 19.10.2021
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d5 6.exd5 Qxd5** and ...Bxf2+! would now be decisive **7.Bc4 Qd6 8.Nbd2** White is slightly better. **8...Bf5 9.b4 Bb6 10.Ng5! 0-0 11.Nde4 Nxe4 12.dxe4 Qxd1+ 13.Kxd1 Bg4+ 14.Kc2 h6!**
[14...Bxf2 15.Rf1 Be6 16.Bxe6 *(16.Nxe6 fxe6 17.Bxe6+ Kh8±)* 16...fxe6 17.Nxe6±]
15.Nf3 Bxf3 0.69/23
[15...Bxf2= 0.01/23 16.Rf1 Bb6 17.a4 a6 18.Nh4 *(18.Ba3 Rfe8 19.Rad1 Be6 20.Bxe6 Rxe6 21.a5 Be3 22.Rd7 Rc8 23.Nh4 Nb8 24.Rd3 Bg5 25.Nf5 Rd8 26.Rg3 g6 27.Bc1 gxf5 28.exf5 Red6 29.h4 f6 30.hxg5 hxg5 31.Rh1 Nd7 32.Be3 Nf8* Winkler,T (2651)-Ferri,S (2731) (open) 129/(156) 2016*)* 18...Nd8 19.a5 Ba7 20.Nf5 Ne6 21.Bxh6 Bxf5 22.exf5 gxh6 23.fxe6 fxe6 24.Bxe6+ Kg7 25.Rad1 Rxf1 26.Rxf1 Rf8 27.Rxf8 Kxf8 28.Bc8 b6 29.Bxa6 c5 30.Bb5 cxb4 31.a6 bxc3 1-0 Osnos,V (2768)-Ferri,S (2731) WchT Students 20th final C 1974]
16.gxf3± Bxf2 17.Rf1 Bh4 18.a4N White has strong compensation.
[18.Rg1 Kh7 19.Be3 27. Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3-5...d5 6.exd5 Qxd5 7.Bc4 Qd6]
18...a5 1.31/23
[18...a6± 0.64/19]
19.b5± Nd8 Black is weak on the light squares **20.f4 Re8** 2.02/23
[20...exf4± 0.99/22 21.Bxf4 Re8]
21.f5+- b6 22.Rg1 Kf8 23.Be3 1.09/25
[23.Rg4+- 1.76/22 Bf6 24.Bd5]
23...Nb7 24.Bd5 Rab8 25.Rg4 0.92/24
[⌓25.Rad1 1.40/24]
25...Bf6 1.54/24
[Black should play 25...Bg5 0.92/24 26.Bxg5 hxg5]
26.Rd1 1.10/23
[⌓26.Rag1 1.54/24]
26...Red8

(Diagram)

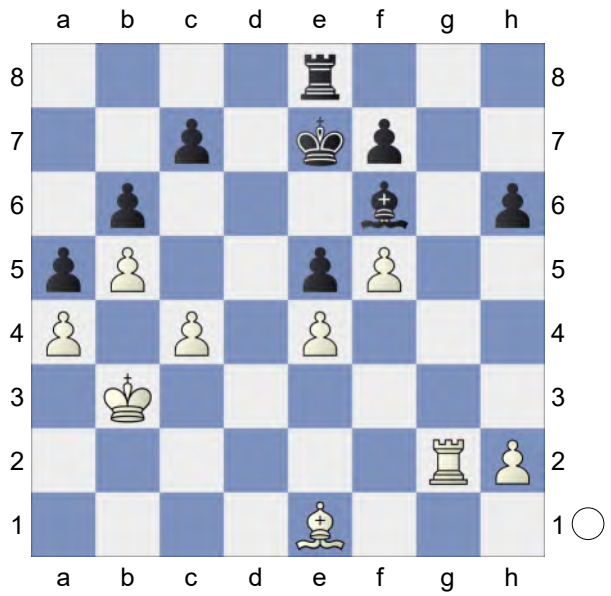


27.Rg2 0.75/22
[⌓27.Bc1! 1.45/22]
27...Ke7 1.16/23
[⌓27...Bg5 0.75/22 28.Bxg5 hxg5]
28.Bc1 0.62/22 White has more active pieces.
[28.Rgg1± 1.16/23]
28...Bg5!± 29.Ba3+
[29.Bxg5+ hxg5 30.Bxb7 *(30.Rxg5 Nd6=)* 30...Rxd1 31.Kxd1 Rxb7=]
29...Kf6



30.Rg4 0.04/22
[30.Rd3!± 1.20/24]
30...Nd6 1.08/23
[30...Be3= 0.04/22]
31.c4± Be3 Prevents Rdg1 **32.Bb2** 0.70/22
[32.Rd3± 1.23/24 Bc5 33.Bxc5 bxc5 34.Rg2]
32...Bc5 1.24/23
[32...Nb7!± 0.70/22]
33.Bc3 Ne8 1.80/23
[33...Rd7± 0.99/22]
34.Be1 0.50/24
[34.Rd3+- 1.80/23]
34...Ke7!± 35.Bc3 -0.01/24
[Better is 35.Rd3± 1.04/24]
35...Bd6? 2.53/25
[35...Kf6= -0.01/24 and Black has nothing to worry.]
36.Rdg1+- Bc5 3.19/23
[36...Rd7 2.18/23 37.R1g2 g6]
37.R1g2 Bd6 5.03/25
[37...f6 3.13/23 38.Rg6 Rd7]
38.Kb3 Rbc8? 5.51/24
[38...Rd7 2.96/25 39.Bc6 Rbd8]
39.Bb7? 2.03/22
[39.Rxg7 5.51/24 Nxg7 40.Rxg7]
39...Rb8 40.Bd5 -0.01/23 This pair of bishops is nice.
[40.Bc6+- 2.22/27]
40...Rdc8? 5.64/25
[40...Rbc8= -0.01/23]
41.Be1 Kf8 42.Bc6 And now Bxe8 would win. **42...Be7** 4.03/25
[42...Rd8 2.81/23 was called for. 43.Bxe8 Remove Defender Kxe8]
43.Bxe8 Remove Defender **43...Rxe8**
44.Rxg7 Bf6 6.86/24
[⌓44...Bg5 4.00/26]
45.Rg8+ Ke7 46.Rxe8+ White is clearly winning. **46...Rxe8** Endgame

(Diagram)



KRB-KRB **47.c5! Bg5 48.cxb6 cxb6 49.Bf2 Rb8 50.Bg1 Rd8 51.Bxb6 Rd3+ 52.Kc4 Rd1 53.Bxa5 Rd4+ 54.Kb3 Rxe4 55.Rc2 Re3+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.50/Black=0.67 **56.Rc3**
1-0

259 **C65**
□ **Yu,Yangyi** **2728**
■ **Dvirnyy,Danyyil** **2530**
Elllobregat op 3rd (9) 08.12.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Ba4 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.c3 Ne7 8.d4** 8.h3 is the recent fashion. 8.h3 ist aktuell in Mode. **8...Bb6 9.Bc2 Ng6 10.h3N**

[10.a4 c6 11.dxe5 Nxe5 12.Nxe5 dxe5 13.Qxd8 Rxd8 14.a5 Bc5 15.Nd2 Be6 16.Re1 b5 17.Nb3 Bxb3 18.Bxb3 Ng4 19.Re2 Rd6 20.Bg5 Kf8 21.Rf1 Nf6 22.g3 a6 23.Kg2 Nd7 24.Bc1 Ba7 Molina,R (2845)-Ernst,H (2771) Ulaanbaatar 2019 EXT 98 [Kwiatkowski] 1-0 (39)]
[10.Be3 c6 11.Re1 Re8 12.h3 exd4 13.Bxd4 Nd7 14.a4 Nde5 15.Nbd2 Be6 16.b4 a5 17.Rb1 axb4 18.Bxb6 Qxb6 19.cxb4 Rad8 20.a5 Qa7 21.Qe2 c5 ½-½ (21) Yu,Y (2729)-Giri,A (2768) Chess.com INT 2023]

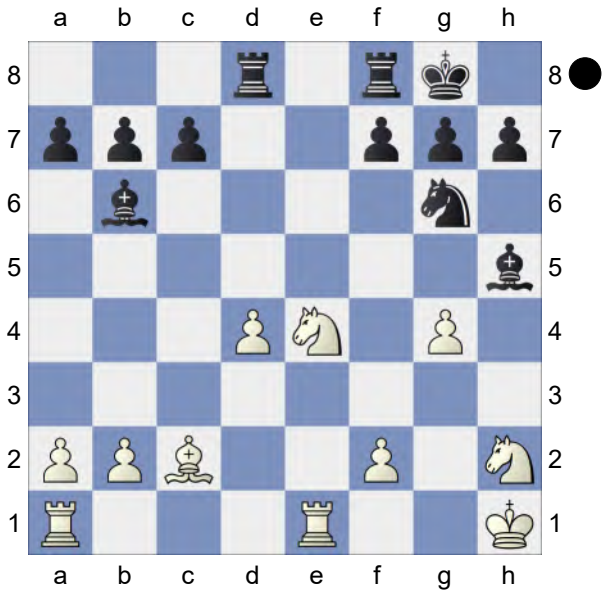
10...d5!?N An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 10...c6 11.a4 d5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.exd5 exd4 15.a5 Bc7 16.Qxd4 Qxd4 17.Nxd4 cxd5 ½-½ (42) Grandelius,N (2672)-Howell,D (2646) London 2022]

11.exd5 exd4 12.cxd4 Nxd5 13.Nc3 Ndf4 14.Re1 Be6 15.Bxf4 Nxf4 16.Qd2 Qf6 17.h4 Nh3+ 18.Kh1 White wants to play Ne4. **18...Rad8** ...Rxd4 is the strong threat. **19.Ne4 Qf4 20.Qxf4**

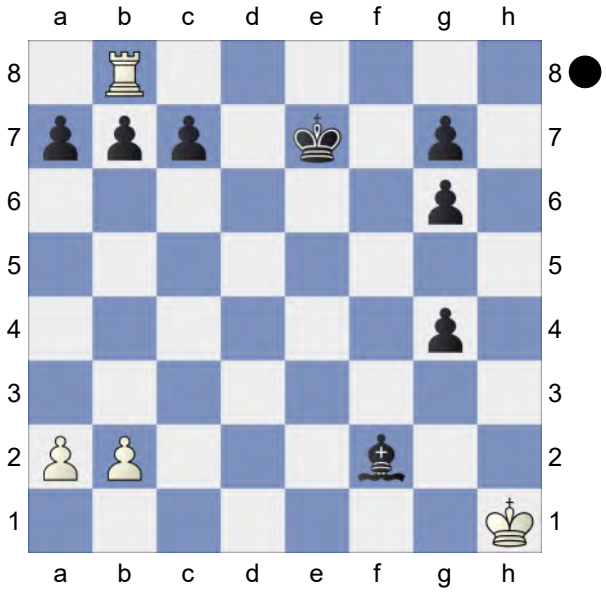
[20.Qe3 looks sharper. f5 21.Neg5 Qxe3 22.Rxe3 Nxg5 23.hxg5 Bf7 24.Bxf5]

20...Nxf4 21.g3! Ng6 22.h5 Bg4 23.Nh2 Bxh5 24.g4



Bxg4 25.Nxg4 f5!↑ White is under pressure. **26.Ng5 fxg4 27.Bxg6 hxg6**

28.Ne6 Rxd4 -0.20/21
[Reject 28...Bxd4 29.Nxd8 Rxd8 30.Rad1=]
[28...Rc8∓ -0.56/23 29.Nxf8 Rxf8]
29.Nxf8= Kxf8 30.Rad1 Prevents Rd2.
30...Rxd1 31.Rxd1 Bxf2∓
Endgame KR-KB **32.Rd8+** -0.39/24
[White should play 32.Kg2∓ -1.04/26 Bc5 33.Kg3]
32...Ke7 33.Rb8



b6! Threatens to win with ...a5. **34.Rb7 a5** 0.01/22
[34...Kd6∓ -1.12/24 Strongly threatening ...a5. 35.Rxa7 Bd4]
35.Rxc7+= The position is equal.
35...Kf6 36.Rc4 Kf5 Against Rf4+
37.b4 axb4! 38.Rxb4 g3 39.Kg2 g5 40.Kf3 Kf6 41.Rb5 g4+ 42.Kg2 Kg6 43.Rd5 Kf6 44.Rd7 Kg6 45.Re7 Kf6 46.Re8 Kg6 47.Rf8 Kg5 48.a4 Kg6 49.Rf4 Kg5 50.Rf7 Kg6 51.Ra7 Kf6 52.Ra6 Kg5 53.Ra7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.01 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)
½-½

260 **C65**
□ **Kobalia,Mihail** **2578**
■ **Jumabayev,Rinat** **2590**
Sharjah Masters 6th (9) 25.05.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 This was the first classical game after the World Championship match and I was anticipating a tough fight. But unfortunately the Berlin wall is just too solid :) Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi: 'Vidit,S: 'This was the first classical game after the World Championship match and I was anticipating a tough fight. But unfortunately the Berlin wall is just too solid :)'' **1.e4** Vidit,Santosh Gujrathi
1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.Be3 7.c3 is becoming the main line. 7.c3 wird zur Hauptvariante.
7...Bd6 8.Nbd2 The position is equal.
8...0-0 9.Nc4 Re8 10.h3
[10.Nfd2 Nf8 11.Qh5 Be6 12.h3 Ng6 13.g3 Qd7 14.Kh2 f5 15.exf5 Bxf5 16.Ne4 Rf8 17.Rae1 Rae8 18.Bd2 Ne7 19.Ne3 Bg6 20.Qg4 Qd8 21.Ng5 Rf6 22.h4 Nd5 23.Qc4 Kh8 24.Nxd5 cxd5 Caruana,F (2800)-Predke,A (2666) Riga 2021 [Tadic, Branko] ½-½ (47)]
10...Nf8 11.d4 exd4 12.Qxd4 Ne6N An interesting novelty. Eine interessante Neuerung.
[Vorgänger: 12...c5 13.Qd3 b6 14.Nxd6 Qxd6 15.Qxd6 cxd6 16.Rfd1 Bb7 17.Rxd6 Bxe4 18.Ne1 Rad8 ½-½ Anand,V (2773)-Carlsen,M (2872) Zuerich Chess Challenge 2014

(5) 19.Rad1 Ne6 20.Rxd8 Rxd8 21.Rxd8+ Nxd8 22.f3 Bd5 23.a3 Nc6 24.Kf2 f6 25.Nd3 Kf8 26.Ke2 Ke7 27.Kd2 Kd7 28.Nf4 Bf7 29.b3 Ne7 30.h4 Nd5 31.Nxd5 Bxd5 32.Bf4 Kc6 33.Bg3 Bf7 Buchicchio, G (2773)-Molina,R (2872) Bulgaria 2014 Lexikon09 [CC INF5 *132] ½-½ (40) 34.Bb8 a6 35.Bf4 Bg6 36.Bg3 Bh5 37.Bf2 Bf7 38.Bg3 Bg6 ½-½ Anand,V (2773)-Carlsen,M (2872) Zuerich Chess Challenge 2014 (5)]

13.Qc3 Bf8 14.Rfe1 Qe7 15.b3 b6 16.Rad1 c5 17.Nce5 Qf6 0.01/19

[17...f6!?∓ -0.47/21 is superior. 18.Nd3 Qf7= *(18...Bb7)*]

18.Qc4= Bb7 19.Rd7 Re7 20.Bd2 Rxd7 21.Nxd7 Pair of Knights! A dynamic duo of knights. **21...Qe7 22.Nxf8 Rxf8 23.Bc3 Rd8 24.Be5 h6 25.c3** -0.72/22

[25.Bg3= -0.11/19]

25...Qd7∓ 26.Qe2 a5 27.Nh4 Qd2 28.f4 -1.03/20 Black converts the advantage convincingly.

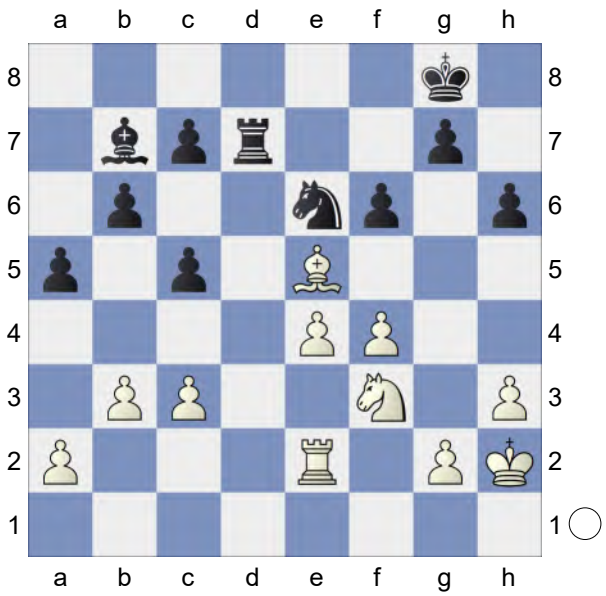
[28.Nf5∓ -0.57/21]

28...Qxe2∓

[28...Nxf4? 29.Qxd2 Nxh3+ 30.gxh3+-]

29.Rxe2 Rd1+ 30.Kh2 Rd7 31.Nf3 f6

(Diagram)



Trapped Piece **32.f5 fxe5**

[32...Ng5?! 33.Nxg5 hxg5 34.Bg3=]

33.fxe6 Endgame KRB-KRN **33...Re7 34.Rd2** -1.64/23

[34.Kg1∓ -1.11/20]

[34.g4∓ -1.32/22]

34...Bxe4-+

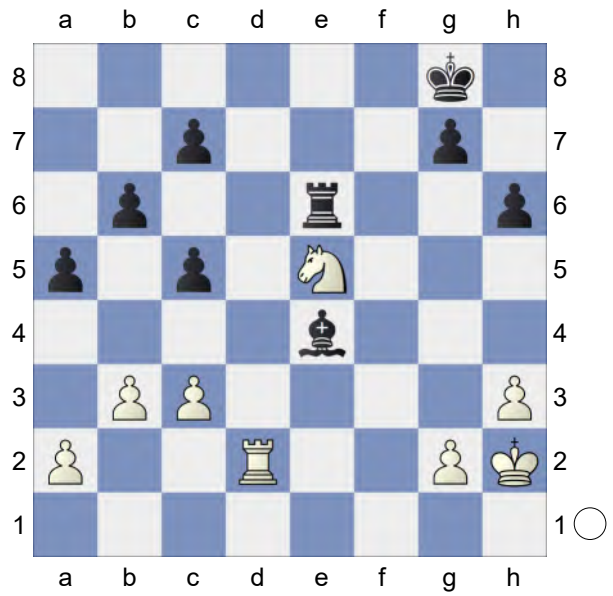
[And not Much less strong is 34...Rxe6 35.Rd8+ Kf7 36.Rd7+ *(36.Nd2)* 36...Re7 37.Rxe7+ *(37.Nxe5+ Ke6∓)* 37...Kxe7 38.Nd2∓]

35.Nxe5

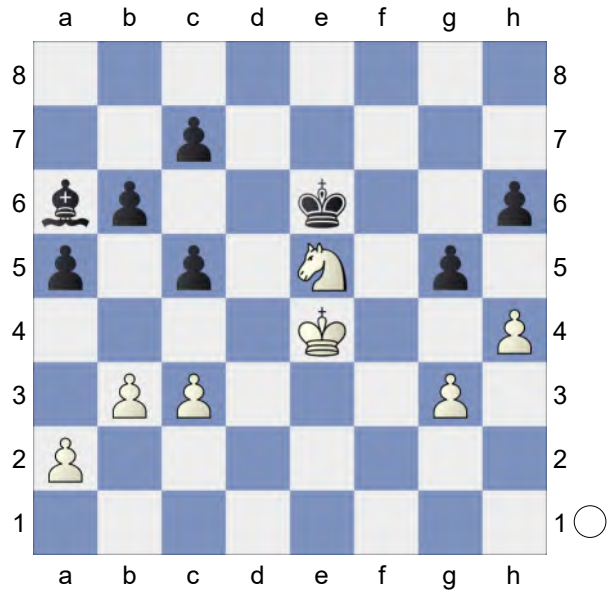
[35.Rd8+ Kh7 36.Rd7 Rxe6 37.Rxc7 Bb1∓]

35...Rxe6

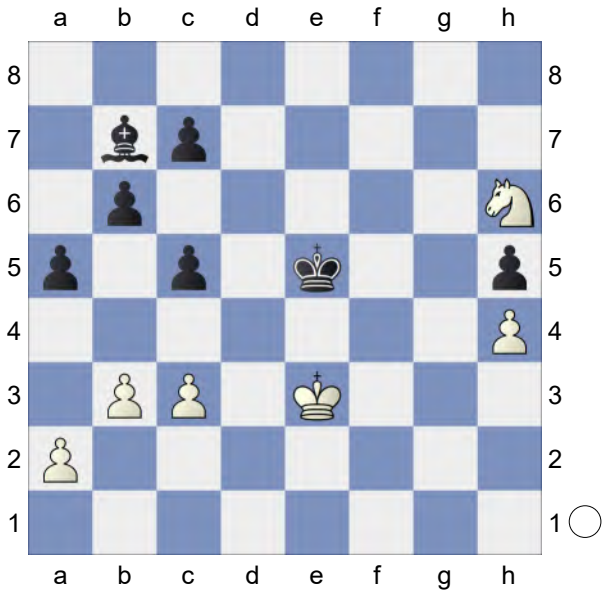
(Diagram)



36.Ng4 Bc6 37.Rd8+ -2.17/24
[⌓37.Kg1 -1.80/21]
37...Re8 38.Rxe8+ Bxe8 KB-KN KB-KN. Black is a pawn up. **39.Ne5 g5 40.Kg3 Kg7 41.Kf3** -2.15/27
[41.h4 -1.75/24 keeps fighting.]
41...Kf6 42.Ke4 Ke6 43.g3 Bb5 44.h4 -3.02/26
[⌓44.c4 -1.93/25 Ba6 45.Ng4 Bb7+ 46.Ke3]
44...Ba6



...Bb7+ is the strong threat. Black has a decisive advantage. **45.Ng4 Bb7+ 46.Ke3 h5 47.Nh6 gxh4 48.gxh4 Ke5**



Hoping for ...Bd5. White must now prevent ...Bb7-d5. **49.Nf7+ Kf6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.03 (flawless) Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
0-1

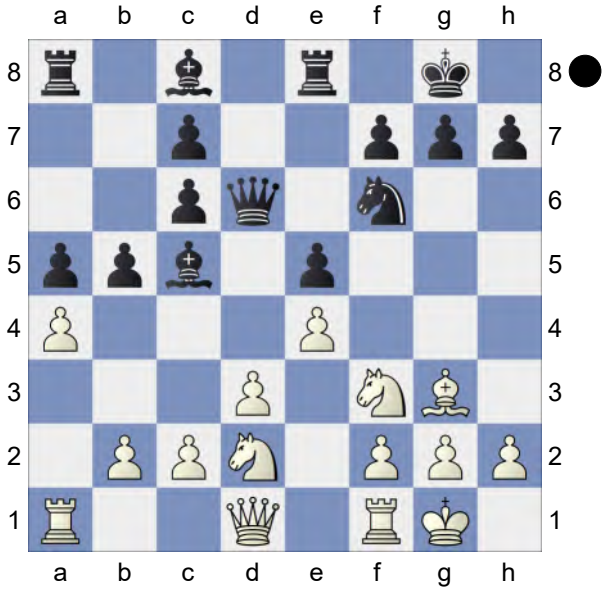
261 **C65**
□ **Nisipeanu,Liviu Dieter** **2672**
■ **Radjabov,Teimour** **2759**
47th GM 2019 (2.1) 14.07.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Bg5**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]
6...0-0
[6...Qd6 7.Nbd2 Nd7 8.Nc4 Qe6 9.0-0 0-0 10.a4 Nb6 11.Be3 Nxc4 12.Bxc5 Nd6 13.a5 f6 14.d4 Rd8 15.Re1 Nb5 16.d5 Qf7 17.c4 Nd6 18.Qb3 cxd5 19.cxd5 c6 20.Bxa7 cxd5 21.Bb6 1-0 Kavakul,M (2741)-

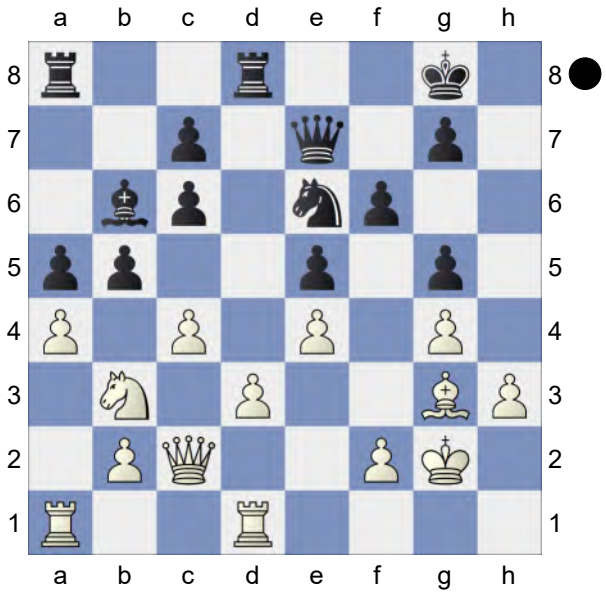
Eyabrev (2616) Yerevan (zt) 33/700 1982]
[6...Be6 7.Nbd2 Qd6 8.Bxf6 gxf6 9.0-0 0-0-0 10.Kh1 Rhg8 11.Qe2 Rg7 12.Nc4 Qd7 13.Ne3 Rdg8 14.Nh4 Rg5 15.c3 a6 16.b4 Ba7 17.Rad1 Bxe3 18.Qxe3 Kb8 19.Rd2 f5 20.exf5 Bxf5 21.d4 1-0 So,W (2752)-Lazavik,D (2566) CCT Finals Advancement 2023 (2.1)]

7.Nbd2 Re8 8.Bh4N The position is equal.
[8.Qe2 b5 9.h3 Bb6 10.g4 a5 11.c3 Qd6 12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Nf1 Ba6 14.Ng3 g6 15.0-0-0 c5 16.Kb1 a4 17.g5 Qe7 18.h4 a3 19.h5 axb2 20.Rh4 Qe6 21.Rdh1 Re7 22.Nd2 Bc8 1-0 Winawer,S-Mortimer,J London IT 1883 (8.1)]

8...b5 9.0-0 a5 10.a4 Qd6 11.Bg3



Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.Bh2 and g4 should not be overlooked **13...Nd7 14.g4 Bg6 15.Nb3 Bb6 16.Nh4 f6 17.Nxg6 hxg6 18.Kg2 g5 19.c3 Nf8 20.Qc2 Qe7 21.Bg3 Ne6 22.Rfd1! Red8** Loses the game. **23.c4?** -2.07/21
[23.d4= 0.01/21]



23...Qb4-+ 24.axb5 -2.29/24
[⌓24.cxb5 -1.89/21 cxb5 25.f3]

24...cxb5 25.cxb5 Qxb5 26.Ra3 -3.24/23
[⌓26.Ra2 -2.16/23]

26...a4 27.Nd2 Bc5 28.Rc3 Bb4 29.Rc4 Nd4 Dodges Nf3 **30.Qb1 Bxd2 31.Rxd2 c5 32.Rc3 Rd7** White must now prevent ...Rad8. **33.h4?** -3.87/25
[33.f3 -1.79/22 was worth a try.]

33...gxh4 34.Bxh4 g5 35.Bg3 Kg7 36.Ra3? -7.81/22
[36.Qa2 -3.06/22]

36...Nb3 Black is clearly winning. **37.Rd1 Rad8 38.Qa2 Rd4 39.Re1 Rb4**
[39...Qxd3? 40.Rxa4 Kg6 41.Ra8 Rxa8 *(41...Rxe4? too greedy. 42.Rxd8* Deflection *Qxd8 43.Rxe4+-; 41...Nd2 42.Ra3∓)* 42.Qxa8∓]

40.Qb1 Weighted Error Value: White=0.57/Black=0.13 (very precise) **40...Rxd3 0-1**

262 **C65**
□ **Yu,Yangyi** **2729**
■ **Isik,Alparslan** **2472**
Dubai Police op-A (5) 08.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Yu Yangyi: 'Before the final round Kramnik, the second seed in this tournament (behind Giri), was leading the field with 7.0/8, followed by me with 6.5/8. I felt a bit exhausted after my lucky but deserved five hour victory in round eight against Giri. Playing the former World Champion, whose games I had studied extensively ever since I began playing chess, was of course a great event for me. I approached the last round with excitement and was eager to learn from one of the most renowned personalities in chess history.' Bojkov, Dejan: 'We are in the last round of the Qatar Open and at the first board of it. Kramnik is leading the event with 7/8 points, where he won the last 6 games after having started the event with 2 draws. Yu Yangyi is his direct competitor with only 0.5 points behind. Clearly, Kramnik wasn't expecting a short draw and was prepared for a very tough game. What actually happened was a disaster from Black's point of view. White has managed to get comfortable play. Kramnik tried to solve his problems in a tactical way, but missed Yu Yangyi's brilliant replies. White won a very nice game.' Bojkov, Dejan: 'We are in the last round of the Qatar Open and at the first board of it. Kramnik is leading the event with 7/8 points, where he won the last 6 games after having started the event with 2 draws. Yu Yangyi is his direct competitor with only 0.5 points behind. Clearly, Kramnik wasn't expecting a short draw and was prepared for a very tough game. What actually happened was a disaster from Black's point of view. White has managed to get comfortable play. Kramnik tried to solve his problems in a tactical way, but missed Yu Yangyi's 'We are in the last round of the Qatar Open and at the first board of it. Kramnik is leading the event with 7/8 points, where he won the last 6 games after having started the event with 2 draws. Yu Yangyi is his direct competitor with only 0.5 points behind. Clearly, Kramnik wasn't expecting a short draw and was prepared for a very tough game. What actually happened was a disaster from Black's point of view. White has managed to get comfortable play. Kramnik tried to solve his problems in a tactical way, but missed Yu Yangyi's brilliant replies. White won a very nice game. Yu,Yangyi: 'Yu Yangyi: 'Before the final round Kramnik, the second seed in this tournament (behind Giri), was leading the field with 7.0/8, followed by me with 6.5/8. I felt a bit exhausted after my lucky but deserved five hour victory in round eight against Giri. Playing the former World Champion, whose games I had studied extensively ever since I began playing chess, was of course a great event for me. I approached the last round with excitement and was eager to learn from one of the most renowned personalities in chess history. '' Yu,Yangyi: 'Yu Yangyi: 'Before the final round Kramnik, the second seed in this tournament (behind Giri), was leading the field with 7.0/8, followed by me with 6.5/8. I felt a bit exhausted after

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[Don't play 11.Ne6 Qe7 12.Qg4 g6∓]

11...Nf8 12.Nd2 Ne6 13.Qh5+ g6 14.Qe2N A top novelty. Eine Top Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 14.Qd1 Qd7 *(14...Bc5 15.Nc4 b5 16.Na5 Qd7 17.Be3 Bb6*

18.b4 0-0 19.Qd2 f5 20.exf5 gxf5 21.Qc3 f4 22.Bxb6 cxb6 23.Nxc6 Qd6 24.Rxa7 Rxa7 25.Nxa7 f3 26.Qc6 Qe7 27.Nxb5 Kh8 28.g3 Qf7 29.Ra1 Yu,Y (2705)-Kramnik,V (2760) Doha 2014 CBM 164 [Yu, Yangyi] 1-0 (33) *Ng5 30.Ra8 Qe7 31.h4 Nh3+ 32.Kf1 e4 33.Qxe4* 1-0 (33) Roehrich,S (2705)-Hantel,T (2760) Sydney 2014 CR97-82 [Zozulia, A; Malakhatko,V]*)* 15.Nc4 Bc5 16.Be3 a6 17.Qe1 Bxe3 18.fxe3 Hoping for Qh4. 0-0 19.b4 Kg7 20.Qc3 ½-½ Caruana,F (2764)-Le,Q (2728) Chessable Masters Div 1 Win rapid 2023 (1.3) Rae8 21.Rf2 h5 22.Na5 Nd8 23.Nb3 Nf7 24.Raf1 Nd6 25.Na5 Rf7 26.b3 Qe7 27.h3 h4 28.Rf3 Rh8 29.Nc4 Rh5 30.Qe1 f5 31.Nd2 Rh8 32.c4 fxe4 33.Rxf7+ Nxf7 34.Nxe4 Nd6 35.Nf2 Deslandes,P (2764)-Persse,D (2728) Santos 2023 TD 94\02 [John Watson] ½-½ (73)]

14...Qd7 15.Nc4 0-0 16.Bh6 Rfe8 17.Be3 Kg7 18.b4 Bxe3 19.fxe3 c5 20.bxc5 Nxc5 21.b4 Ne6 22.Qd2 a6

[22...b5!? 23.Nb2 Qe7=]

23.Ra5 -0.40/20

[23.Na5= 0.01/18]

23...Rad8 0.07/17

[23...b5∓ -0.40/20 feels stronger. 24.Nb2 c5]

24.Rd5 Qe7 25.Qc3 c6 26.Ra5 -0.56/19

[26.Rxd8= -0.07/23 Rxd8 27.Nb6]

26...Kg8 0.16/23

[26...b5!∓ -0.56/19 27.Nb2 c5]

27.Rf2 Rf8 28.Qb3 Kg7 29.Qb2 Kg8 30.Ra1 Kg7 31.Raf1 Kg8 32.h3 Kg7 33.Qb3 -0.31/21

[33.Nb6= 0.01/19]

33...Rde8 0.01/20

[33...b5∓ -0.31/21 might be stronger. 34.Na5 Rc8]

34.Qa3= Qc7 35.Qa5! Re7 36.Nd2 Rd7 37.Nf3 -0.17/21

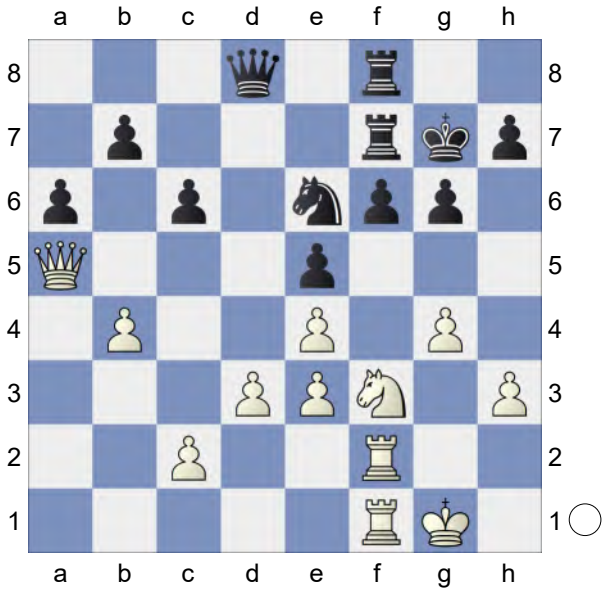
[37.Nb3 0.17/18 deserves consideration.]

37...Qd8 0.17/20

[37...c5 -0.17/21 should be considered.]

38.g4 Rdf7 0.75/22

[38...h6= 0.04/18 keeps the balance.]



39.h4 -0.01/20

[White should try 39.g5!± 0.75/22]

39...Kg8 0.55/22

[39...Qd6= -0.01/20]

40.Kh2 -0.01/19

[40.Qxd8± 0.55/22 Nxd8 41.d4]

40...Qe7 41.Kg1 Qd8 0.54/18

[41...Qd7= -0.01/18]

42.Qxd8!± Nxd8 43.d4 exd4 44.exd4 Re8 45.Nd2 Kg7 46.c3 Re6 47.Rg2

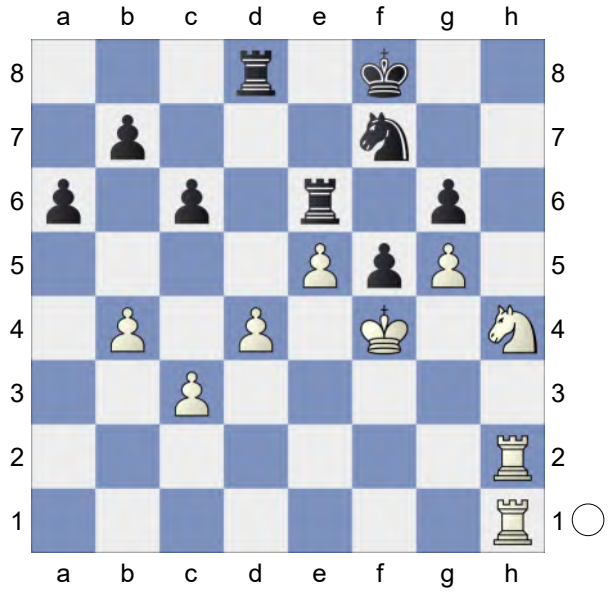
[47.g5 is interesting. h6 48.gxf6+ Rexf6 49.Nc4]

47...h6 48.Kf2 Rfe7 49.g5 hxg5 50.hxg5 f5 51.e5 Re8 1.42/21

[⌓51...b6 1.04/20]

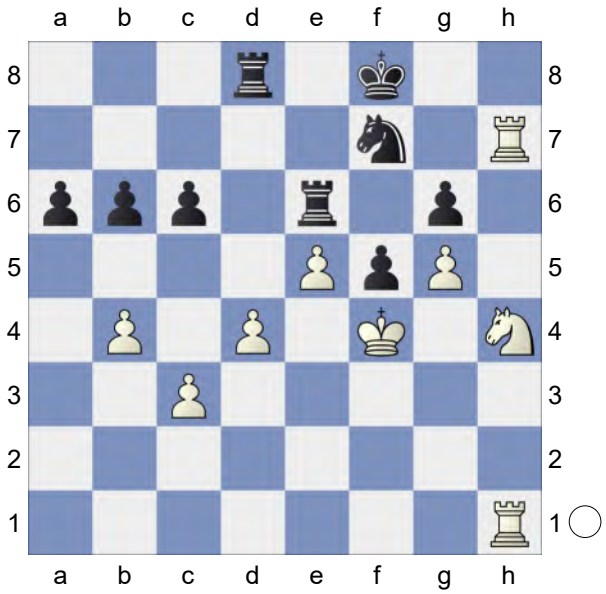
52.Rh2± Nf7 53.Nf3 R6e7 54.Ke3

Rd7 1.63/20
[54...Ra8± 1.30/21]
55.Rfh1 1.06/19
[White should play 55.Kf4+- 1.63/20]
55...Rdd8 1.59/20
[⌓55...Kf8 1.06/19 56.Kf4 Rde7]
56.Kf4 Kf8? 4.42/24 Loses the game.
[56...Kg8± 1.56/21 was called for.
57.Nd2 Re7]
57.Rh7 1.98/23
[⌓57.Nh4 4.42/24 Re6



58.Nxf5!]
57...b6? 7.09/23
[57...Kg8 1.98/23 58.e6 Rxe6]
58.Nh4+- Re6

(Diagram)

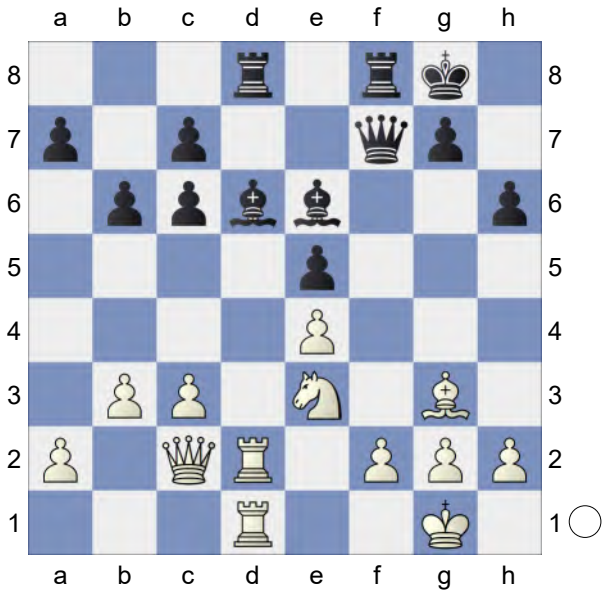


59.Nxf5! gxf5 7.89/22
[⌓59...Rd5 4.97/22 60.Nh6 Nxe5 61.dxe5 Rdxe5 62.Rh8+ Ke7 63.Ng8+ Kd6]
[59...Rd7 60.Nd6]
60.Kxf5 Re7 61.g6 Threatening mate with g7+. **61...Rdd7 62.g7+ Kg8 63.Rh8+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.36
1-0

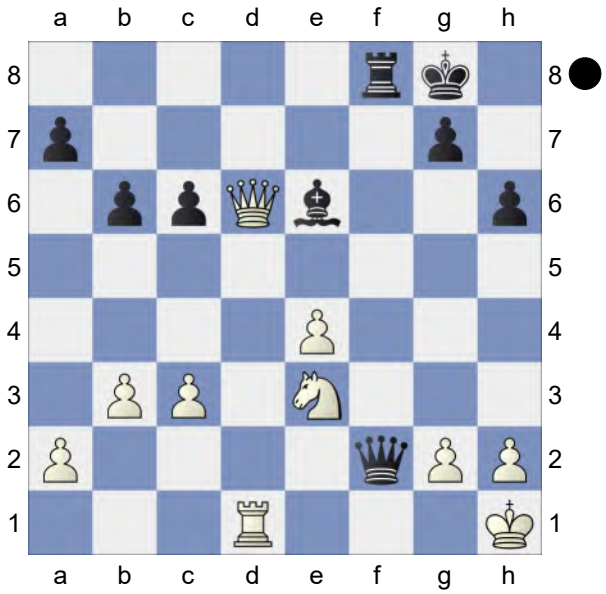
263 **C65**
□ **Dubov,Daniil** **2708**
■ **Ten Hertog,Hugo** **2528**
MrDodgy Online Inv Gp-A 3rd blitz (14)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Qe7 7.c3 Nd7** 0.31/27
[7...Bd6= -0.09/22]
8.Bg5 -0.14/26
[8.Re1± 0.31/27 feels stronger.]
8...f6= 9.Bh4 Bd6 0.01/25
[9...g5∓ -0.32/19 10.Bg3 h5]

10.d4!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **10...0-0**
11.Nbd2 Qf7N 12.Re1N
[12.Bg3 Re8 *(12...a5 13.b3 b6 14.Re1 Ba6 15.Qc2 c5 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Rad1 Rfe8 18.Nf1 Bxf1 19.Rxf1 a4 20.Nd2 b5 21.Qd3 Ra5 22.Rb1 Nb6 23.Rfd1 axb3 24.axb3 c4 25.bxc4 Nxc4 26.Nxc4 Qxc4 27.Qxc4+* Skara,M (2645)-Behrmann (2529) El Vendrell 2022 The Week in Chess 354 [John Watson] ½-½ (40) *)*
13.Qc2 a5 *(13...b6 14.Rfe1 a5 15.Nf1 Nf8 16.dxe5 fxe5 17.Ne3 Ng6 18.Ng5 Qe7 19.Qb3+ Be6 20.Qxe6+ Qxe6 21.Nxe6 Rxe6 22.Rad1* 4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7-4...Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.O-O Nd7*)*
14.b3 exd4 15.cxd4 Bxg3 0.45/25 *(15...Nb6=* 0.12/24 is superior.*)*
16.hxg3± Nb6 17.a4 Bg4 1-0 (50) Liang,A (2266)-Li,R (2358) Las Vegas 2014 18.Rfe1]
12...Re8 13.Qc2 b6 14.Rad1 -0.10/24
[⌓14.Nf1 0.23/25]
14...h6 15.Nf1 -0.23/24
[⌓15.b3 0.19/23]
15...Nf8 0.10/23
[⌓15...Qxa2 -0.23/24 16.Ne3 Qf7]
16.Ne3 Bd7 0.53/22
[16...Qxa2= 0.08/24 deserves consideration. 17.dxe5 Bxe5]
17.Bg3 Ng6 18.Nf5 Bf8 19.dxe5
[19.b3 seems wilder. exd4 20.cxd4 c5 21.dxc5 Bxc5 22.b4]
19...Nxe5 20.Nxe5 fxe5 21.Ne3
[21.h3 with more complications. Bc5 22.Nh4 Be6 23.b3]
21...Bd6 22.b3! Be6 23.Rd2 0.11/26
[23.Nf5!± 0.62/19]
23...Rf8 24.Red1 Rad8? 2.25/20
[24...Qf6= 0.19/24 and Black has nothing to worry.]



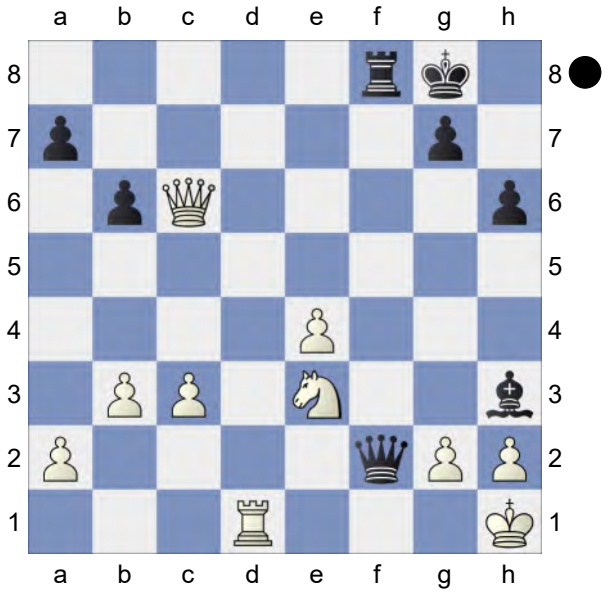
25.Bxe5!+- Be7
[25...Qe7 26.Bxd6]
26.Bxc7 Rxd2 27.Qxd2
[27.Rxd2 Bc5 28.Bd6 Bxe3 29.Bxf8 Bxd2 30.Qxd2 Qxf8∓]
27...Bc5 28.Bd6 -4.13/22
[28.Bg3!+- 1.88/21 is the narrow road to win.]
28...Bxd6-+ 29.Qxd6 Hoping for f4!
29...Qxf2+ 30.Kh1



Bh3 0.08/24 **31.Qd3**
[Don't go for 31.gxh3? Qf3+ 32.Kg1

(32.Ng2? leads to mate. *Qf1+ 33.Rxf1 Rxf1#)* 32...Qxe3+ 33.Kh1 Qf3+ 34.Kg1 Rf6 35.Qxf6 Qxf6-+]

[31.Qxc6?



is a self mate. Bxg2+! 32.Nxg2 Qf1+!! 33.Rxf1 Rxf1#]

Predecessor: **31...Rf3?** 5.12/21 **32.gxf3**

Weighted Error Value: White=0.49/ Black=0.79

1-0

264 **C67**

□ **Guseinov,Gadir** **2661**

■ **Boruchovsky,Avital** **2552**

WchT Pool-B 13th rapid (5.3) 22.11.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4** Pavlovic,Milos **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Ne8 10.Nd5 Bd6 11.Re1** The position is equal. **11...c6**

[Much less strong is 11...Qh4 12.g3 Qd8 13.Ne3±]

12.Ne3 Be7

[But not 12...Qh4 13.g3 Qf6 14.d4±]

[12...Bc7 13.Nf5 d5 14.Ne7+ Kh8 15.Nxc8 Rxc8 16.d3 f5 17.g3 Nf6 18.Qf3 Ng4 19.d4 Qf6 20.c3 Qg6 21.Bh3 Qh5 22.Kg2 g5 23.Bd2 Rf7 24.Re6 Rcf8 25.Rae1 Ne3+ 26.Qxe3 g4 27.Rh6 Ojasuo,A (2679)-9.♘d2 a5/ 14. ♕c2 ♘gf6 1 (2657) Korinthos 2022 200 Traps In The Opening [Krasenkov Mikhalchishin Beliavsky Neven] 1-0 (43)]

13.c4 d6N

[13...Nc7 14.d4 d5 15.cxd5 Bb4 16.Bd2 Bxd2 17.Qxd2 Nxd5 18.Nxd5 Qxd5 19.Re5 Qd6 20.Bc4 Bd7 Ch. 11 - Berlin 4.O-O Nxe4 5.-Berlin 4.O-O Nxe4 5.Re1: 6.Nx 21.Rae1 b5 22.Bb3 a5 23.a4 bxa4 24.Bxa4 Be6 25.Rxa5 Rxa5 26.Qxa5 Qxd4 27.Bxc6 Qxb2 28.Bd5 Bxd5 29.Qxd5 Qf6 30.g3 g6 ½-½ (30) Svidler,P (2757)-Topalov,V (2780) Moscow 2016 CBM 172 [ChessBase]]

14.d4 Nc7 15.d5!?N

New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.

[Vorgänger: 15.g3 Bf6 16.Bg2 g6 17.Qd3 d5 18.cxd5 cxd5 19.b3 Be6 20.Bb2 Qd7 21.Rac1 ½-½ (73) Wei, Y (2706)-Karjakin,S (2769) Wijk aan Zee 2016 CBM 171 [Pavlovic,Milos]]

15...Bf6 16.g3 cxd5 17.cxd5 Re8 18.Rb1 b6 19.Bd2 Bb7 20.Bg2 Qd7 21.h4 Bd4 22.Qb3 Re5 0.58/18

[22...Bc5= 0.21/17 deserves consideration.]

23.Bc3± Bxc3 24.Qxc3 Ne8

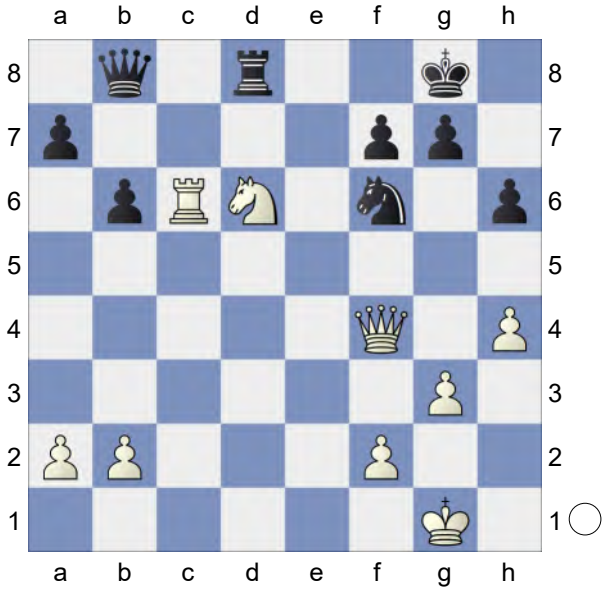
[24...Bxd5? 25.Nxd5 Rxd5 26.Bxd5 Nxd5 27.Qf3+-]

25.Qd4 Nf6 26.Nc4 0.01/24

[26.Rec1!± 0.63/20]

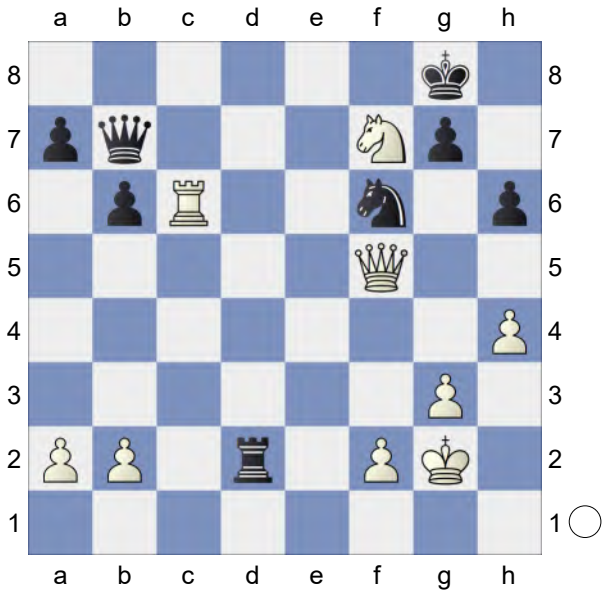
26...Rxd5= 27.Qf4 Rd3 Black wants to play ...Nh5. **28.Bxb7 Qxb7 29.Nxd6**

Qc7 30.Rbd1 Rxd1 31.Rxd1 Rd8 And now ...Ne8 would win. **32.Rc1 Qb8** 0.52/25
[32...Qd7= -0.01/22]
33.Rc6± h6 1.90/24
[Black should play 33...b5± 0.64/22]

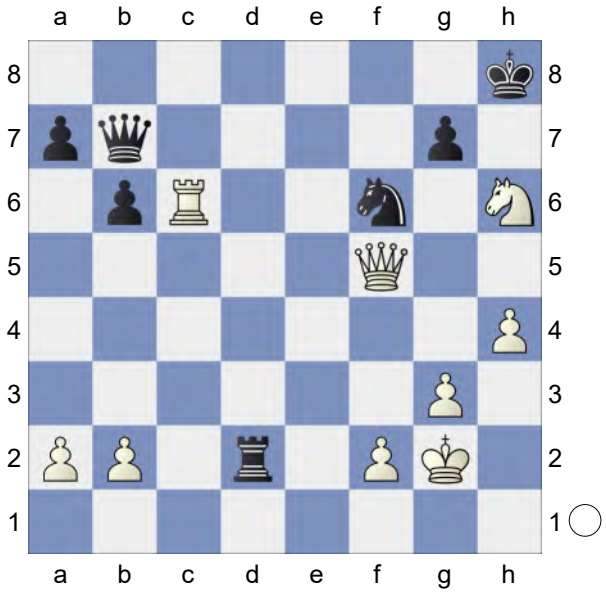


This costs Black the game. **34.Qc4!+- Kh7 35.Nxf7 Rd1+ 36.Kg2** Threatens to win with Qc2+. **36...Rd2** 3.25/22 Against Qc2+
[⌓36...Qe8 1.87/24]
37.Qe6! Hoping for Qf5+. **37...Qb7 38.Qf5+ Kg8**

(Diagram)

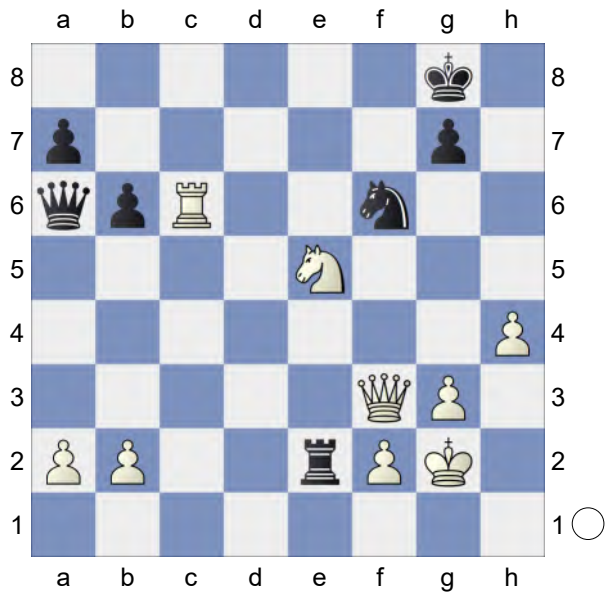


39.Nxh6+! Kh8

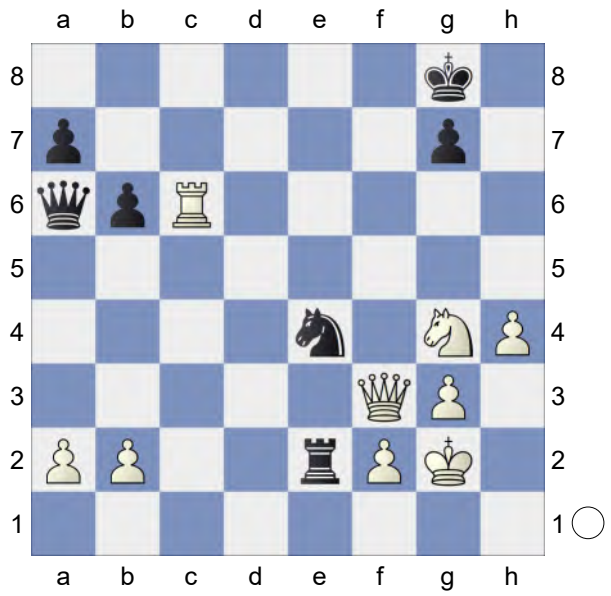


40.Nf7+! Kg8
[40...Qxf7 41.Rc8+]
41.Ne5 Re2 White must now prevent ... Rxe5! **42.Qf3 Qa6** 7.09/24
[42...Rxe5 2.45/21 43.Rxf6 Qxf3+ 44.Rxf3 Re7]

(Diagram)



43.Ng4? 2.65/25
[43.Nd7! 7.09/24 Qb7 44.Nxf6+ gxf6 45.Qxf6]
43...Ne4 #4/11
[43...Nxg4+- 2.65/25 44.Qxg4 Qb7 45.Qc4+ Kh7 46.Qd3+ Kh8 47.Qd8+ Kh7 48.Qd3+ Kh8]

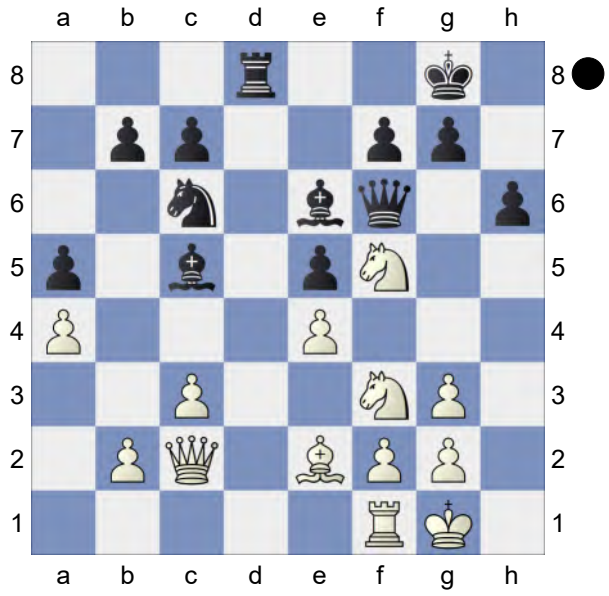


44.Qf5 11.48/24 Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.32
[⌓44.Nh6+! #4/11 gxh6 45.Rg6+ Kh8 46.Qf8+ Kh7 47.Rxh6#]
1-0

265 **C00**
□ **Durarbayli,Vasif** **2635**
■ **Ju,Wenjun** **2555**
PRO League Prelim rapid (4.4) 09.03.23
[Kitty Kat]

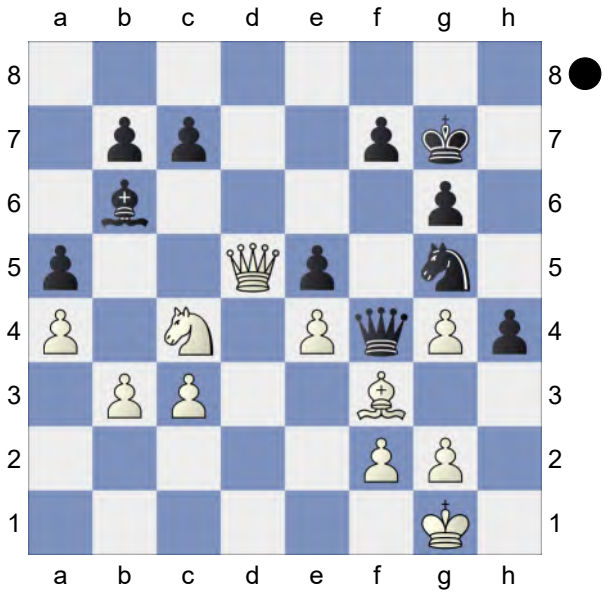
C00: French: Unusual White 2nd moves
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d5 6.Nbd2 0-0 7.0-0 dxe4 8.dxe4 Qe7 9.Qc2 a5 10.a4 Nb8 11.Be2 The position is equal.
[11.h3 Rd8 12.Be2 Nbd7 13.Re1 Nf8 14.Nb3 Bb6 15.Nfd2 Be6 16.Nc4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Ne6 18.g3 h5 19.Kg2 h4 20.Qe2 g6 21.Nd2 Nc5 22.Nf3 hxg3 23.fxg3 Ncxe4 24.Ng5 Nd6 25.Ba2 Re8 Firouzja,A (2785)-Ding,L (2788) Bucuresti 157/122 2023 157 Games Section [Perunovic,Milos] 1-0 (52)]
[11.Re1 h6 12.Nf1 c6 13.Bc4 Ng4 14.Re2 Be6 15.Bxe6 Qxe6 16.Ng3 Rd8 17.h3 Nf6 18.Nf5 Bf8 19.Be3 Nbd7 20.g4 Nc5 21.Ng3 Qb3 22.Nxe5 Qxc2 23.Rxc2 Ncxe4 ½-½ (23) Gazi,M (2785)-Osnos,V (2775) Paks 2023 CT-2292 [John Watson]]
11...Bd6N 0.38/20 An important novelty. Eine beachtenswerte Neuerung.
[Predecessor: 11...Nbd7 12.Nc4 b6 *(12...Nb6 13.Ncxe5 Bd6 14.Nc4 Nxc4 15.Bxc4 Qxe4 16.Qxe4 Nxe4 17.Be3 Bd7 18.Rfd1 Rfd8 19.Bd5 Nf6 20.Bc4 Ne4 21.Bd5 Nf6 22.Bc4 Ne4* ½-½ (22) David,A (2563)-Balogh,C (2628) Brest 2018 EXT 2019 [ChessBase II]*)* 13.h3 Bb7 14.Bd3 Rfd8 15.Re1 h6 16.b3 Qe8 17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Rxe3 0-1 (24) So,W (2773)-Nakamura,H (2760) Chess.com INT 2022]
[11...Nbd7= -0.06/28

was preferrable.]
12.Nc4± Nc6 0.53/20
[12...h6= 0.22/23]
13.Be3 0.18/27
[13.Nxd6± 0.53/20 deserves consideration. cxd6 14.b3]
13...Bc5 14.Rad1 Be6 15.Bg5
[15.Nfxe5 Nxe5 16.Nxe5 Bxe3 17.fxe3 Qc5∓]
15...h6 16.Bh4 Bg4 17.Bg3 0.20/24
[17.Bxf6± 0.51/23 might be stronger. Qxf6 18.Rd5 Bxf3 19.Rxc5 *(19.Bxf3 b6±)* 19...Bxe2 20.Qxe2]
17...Nh5= 18.Nh4 -0.38/24
[White should try 18.Bxe5= 0.22/25 Rad8 19.Bg3]
18...Nxg3∓ 19.hxg3 Be6 20.Nd2 Rad8 21.Nf5 Qf6 22.Nf3 -1.02/21
[22.Nc4∓ -0.58/22]
22...Rxd1 23.Rxd1 Rd8 0.00/24
[23...g6∓ -0.76/19 24.Ne3 *(24.Nxh6+ Kg7∓)* 24...Bxe3 25.fxe3 Rd8]
24.Rf1 -1.38/20
[24.Rxd8+= 0.00/24 Qxd8 25.Bb5]



24...h5 -0.58/25
[Black should play 24...g6!∓ -1.38/20 25.Ne3 *(25.Nxh6+ Kg7∓)* 25...Bxe3 26.fxe3 Qe7]
25.Ne1 -1.78/20
[Better is 25.Bb5∓ -0.58/25]
25...g6↑ Black is in control. **26.Nh4 Qg5 27.Nd3 Bb6** Threatens to win with ... Qxg3. &Nero is much more active. The white rooks are badly placed. This bishop pair is nice. **28.Kh2 Kg7 29.b3** -1.84/21
[29.Nf3∓ -1.50/23 Qf6 30.b3]
29...Bg4 30.Rd1 Qf6 31.Nf3 Bxf3 -1.15/22
[31...Ba7-+ -1.73/22 32.Rf1 g5]
32.Bxf3 -1.70/21
[32.gxf3∓ -1.15/22 h4 33.Kg2]
32...h4 -1.28/25
[32...Rh8-+ -1.70/21 33.Rf1 h4]
33.g4 -1.77/24
[33.gxh4∓ -1.28/25 Qxh4+ 34.Kg1]
33...Rd7 34.Qe2 -2.26/19
[34.Kg1∓ -1.52/23 might work better.]
34...Nd8 35.Nb2 -3.19/22
[35.g5 -2.18/23 was called for. Qxg5 36.Bg4]
35...Rxd1 36.Nxd1 Ne6 37.Kg1 Nf4 38.Qd2 Qe7 39.Kh2 Qa3 40.Qc2 Qc5 41.Ne3 Qe7 42.Nc4 Qf6 -0.89/26
[⌓42...Ne6 -1.55/22 43.Kg1 Qg5]
43.Qd2∓ Ne6 And now ...Ba7 would win. **44.Qd1?** -4.55/21 Now White is beyond hope.
[44.Nxb6∓ -1.05/25 nothing else works. cxb6 45.Bd1]
44...Qf4+ -2.17/25
[⌓44...Bxf2 -4.55/21 45.Kh1 Qf4]
45.Kg1-+ Ng5 46.Qd5? -#7/26
[46.Nxb6∓ -1.60/29 cxb6 47.Kh1]

(Diagram)

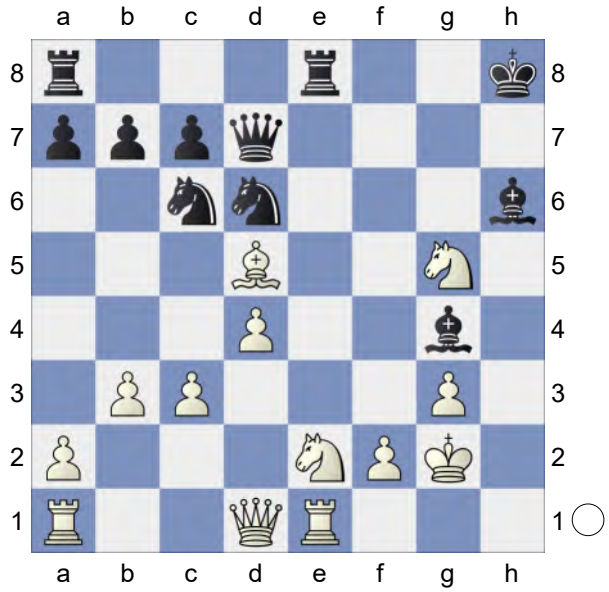


46...Nxf3+ Black mates. **47.gxf3 Qg3+ 48.Kh1 Qxf3+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.63/Black=0.26 (precise)
0-1

266 **C67**
□ **Grischuk,Alexander** **2766**
■ **Nakamura,Hikaru** **2769**
Paris GCT blitz (3) 23.06.2018
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4** Yermolinsky,Alex Yermolinsky,Alex : 'Yermolinsky,A Yermolinsky,A' **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 d5 9.d4 0-0** White has an edge. **10.g3N**
[10.Nc3 Bb4 *(10...Nh4 11.Nxh4 Bxh4 12.Ne2 Bf5 13.c3 Qd7 14.g3 Bd8 15.Nf4 Ne7 16.Nd3 b6 17.Ne5 Qc8 18.b3 f6 19.Nd3 Qd7 20.Ba3 Re8 21.Nf4 c6 22.Qe2 Bc7 23.Qxe7 Rxe7 24.Rxe7 Qc8 25.Nh5* Common Mistakes Chess Play-Game 94: (Level 4) Nils Grand (37)*)* 11.h3 Bxc3 *(11...Nd6 12.Bg5 f6 13.Bd2 Bxc3 14.Bxc3 Bf5 15.Nh4 Be4 16.f3 Bg6 17.Nxg6 hxg6 18.Bd3 Nf5 19.Bxf5 gxf5 20.Qd3 Qd7 21.Re2 Rae8 22.Rae1 Kf7 23.Bd2 Rxe2 24.Rxe2 Re8 25.Rxe8 Kxe8 26.h4* Chapter-Games Game 19 (32)*)* 12.bxc3 Nd6 13.Ne5 Ne7 14.c4 f6 15.c5 fxe5 16.cxd6 Qxd6 17.Rxe5 Nc6 18.Re3 Bf5 19.Ba3 Qf6 20.Bxf8 Rxf8 21.c3 Be4 22.f3 Qg5 23.Qc1 Bg6 24.Re8 Ojasuo,A (2679)-Osnos,V (2736) Soviet Union 2022 200 Traps In The Opening [Krasenkov Mikhalchishin Beliavsky Neven]]
[10.c3 Bd6 *(10...Re8 11.Bf4 Bd6 12.Rxe8+ Qxe8 13.Bxd6 Nxd6 14.Nbd2 Ne7 15.Qe2 Bf5 16.Re1 Ng6 17.Qxe8+ Nxe8 18.h4 Kf8 19.g3 Nd6 20.Bg2 f6 21.Nf1 c6 22.N3d2 Ne7 23.Ne3 Bd3 24.Bh3 a5 25.Ng2* Bierre-Deac,B [GM Kiril Georgiev] (57)*)* 11.Bd3 Nce7 12.Nbd2 Ng6 13.g3 Re8 14.Rxe8+ Qxe8 15.Nf1 h6 16.Bd2 Nfe7 17.h4 Bf5 18.Qc2 Bxd3 19.Qxd3 Qd7 20.Re1 Qh3 21.N1h2 c6 22.Qf1 Qxf1+ 23.Nxf1 h5 Karjakin,S (2760)-Jakovenko,D (2726) Russia 2010 CI1-130 [RR]]
10...Re8 11.Nc3 Be6 12.Ne2 g5 Inhibits Nf4. **13.b3 h6 14.h3 Bf6** 0.41/17
[14...Bd6= 0.00/18 should be considered.]
15.c3 Nd6 16.Bg2 Bg7 17.Be3 Qd7 18.h4 f6 19.hxg5
[19.Nc1 is more complex. b6 20.Nd3 Bf7 21.a4]
19...hxg5 20.Bxg5 -0.91/21 Yermolinsky,Alex : '!?' Yermolinsky,Alex : 'Yermolinsky,A: 'OK, that's enterprising." Yermolinsky,Alex : 'OK, that's

enterprising.' **20...fxg5∓** **21.Nxg5** White wants to play Nf4. **21...Bg4** White must now prevent ...Qf5.
[21...Bh6! (Yermolinsky,Alex) Yermolinsky,A: 'should beat the attack off.' should beat the attack off.]
22.Bxd5+ **Kh8!** Strongly threatening ... Qf5. **23.Kg2!** White has compensation.
23...Bh6!
[23...Nf5? 24.Nf4! Qxd5+ 25.Nxd5±]



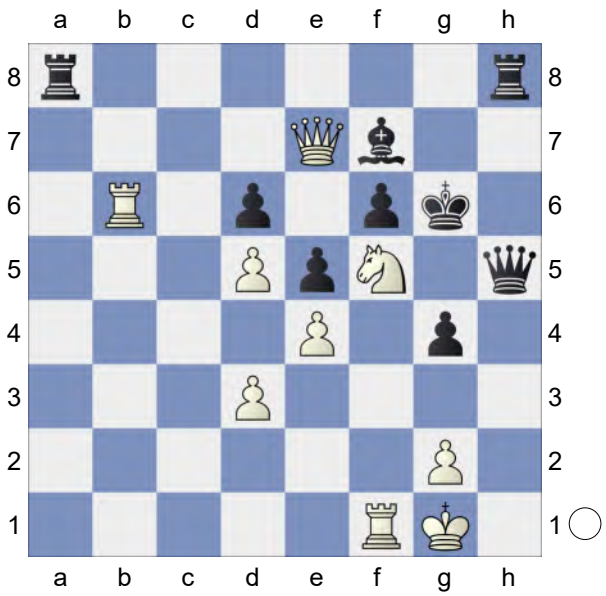
Dancing on a razor blade. This bishop pair is nice. **24.Qd3?** -2.27/20 Yermolinsky,Alex : 'Yermolinsky,A: 'Missing a simple reply.'' Yermolinsky, Alex : 'Missing a simple reply.'
[Yermolinsky,A: 'Instead,' Instead, 24.Rh1 (Yermolinsky,Alex) Yermolinsky,A: 'would have made quite a game out of it' would have made quite a game out of it
A) 24...Kg7 25.Rxh6 Kxh6 26.Qd2 Kg7 *(26...Rxe2 27.Nf7+ Kg7 28.Qh6+ Kg8 29.Qh8#)* 27.Nf4→;
B) 24...Nf5 25.Bf3 Bxf3+ 26.Nxf3 Kg7 27.Qc2∞]
24...Bf5-+
[Weaker is 24...Rxe2 25.Rxe2 Bxe2 26.Qxe2∓]
25.Rh1? -5.73/18
[25.Qf3 -2.26/21 nothing else works. Kg7 26.Ne6+ *(26.Qh5? Bg4-+)* 26...Rxe6 27.Bxe6 Bxe6 28.Nf4 Bxf4 29.Qxf4 Bh3+ 30.Kg1]
25...Bxd3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.45/Black=0.05 (flawless)
0-1

267 **C65**
□ **Sasikiran,K.** **2660**
■ **Rodshtein,M.** **2653**
35th ECC Open 2019 (4.2) 13.11.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** **e5** **2.Nf3** **Nc6** **3.Bb5** **Nf6** **4.d3** **Bc5** **5.c3** **0-0** **6.0-0** **Re8** **7.Bg5** **a6** **8.Ba4** White has an edge. **8...h6** **9.Bh4** **b5** **10.Bb3** **g5**
[10...Be7 11.a4 Rb8 12.axb5 axb5 13.Re1 d6 14.Bg3 Nh5 15.Nxe5 Nxe5 16.Bxe5 dxe5 17.Qxh5 Be6 18.Bxe6 fxe6 19.Qxe5 Qxd3 20.Qxe6+ Kh8 21.Qd5 Rbd8 22.Qxd3 Rxd3 23.Na3 b4 24.Nb5 c6 25.Nc7 1-0 Firouzja,A (2777)-Nakamura,H (2787) Bullet Chess Winners blitz 2023 (4.2)]
11.Bg3 **d6N**
[11...d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Nbd2 #1 28. Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 6.O--8...h6 9. Bh4 b5]
12.a4 **Bd7** **13.Re1** **Bb6** **14.Nbd2** **Ne7** **15.Nf1** **Ng6** **16.Ne3** 0.01/20
[16.h4± 0.40/19]
16...Rb8= **17.axb5** **axb5** **18.Qc2** **Bxe3** **19.fxe3** **c5** **20.Rf1** **Kg7** **21.Nd2** **Rf8** **22.Rf3** -0.86/21

[22.Nf3∓ -0.48/19 feels stronger.]
22...Nh7 -0.37/22
[22...g4∓ -0.86/21 23.Rf2 Nh5]
23.Raf1 f6 24.Ra1 Qb6 -0.03/22
[24...h5!∓ -0.62/21]
25.Bd5⇄ White is not keeping still
25...Ne7 26.c4 Nxd5 27.exd5 Ra8 28.Raf1 Bg4 29.R3f2 Bh5 0.50/23
[29...Bd7!= -0.01/21]
30.cxb5!± Qxb5 31.Nc4 Ra6 32.h4 Qd7 33.e4 Bg4 34.Qd2 Bh5 1.38/22
[⌓34...Qb5 0.85/21]
35.b4± cxb4 36.Qxb4 Rfa8 2.21/20
[36...Bg6± 1.28/21 37.Rb2 Rf7]
37.Kh2 Bg6 38.Rb2 R8a7? 3.70/23
[38...Rf8± 1.49/21 39.Qb7 Qxb7 40.Rxb7+ Kg8]
39.Rfb1+- gxh4 40.Bxh4 Ng5 41.Bxg5 hxg5 42.Qb8 Bf7 43.Ne3 Ra8 44.Qb7 Qd8? 7.94/26
[44...Be8 3.58/23 45.Rb6 R6a7]
45.Nf5+ Kg6 46.Ne7+ 3.33/25
[⌓46.Rh1 7.74/24 White wants to mate with Qxf7+!. Qh8+ 47.Kg1 Ra1+ 48.Rb1]
46...Kg7 47.Nf5+? 0.01/25
[47.Rb6+- 3.63/25 Rxb6 48.Rxb6 *(48.Nf5+ Kg6±)*]
47...Kg6= 48.Qe7 Hoping for Kg3.
48...Qh8+ 49.Kg1 Re8 7.23/24
[⌓49...R6a7 4.91/23 50.Qxd6 Rd8]
50.Qd7+- Qh5 51.Rb7
[51.Nxd6 Rxd6 52.Qxd6 Rh8±]
51...Rf8 52.Qe7 Raa8 53.Rf1 g4 7.87/25
[⌓53...Qe2 4.95/26 54.Nh6 *(54.Qxd6 Ra2±)* 54...Ra2 55.Qxf6+ *(55.Qxf8? Qxg2#)* 55...Kh5 56.Qf3+ *(56.Rxf7? Qxg2#; 56.g4+ Kh4∓)* 56...Kxh6]
54.Rb6 Rh8

(Diagram)



(→ ...Qh1+) **55.Rb2?** -0.01/24
[55.Nxd6 Qh1+ 56.Kf2 Ra2+]
[55.Nh6!+- 4.42/27 Rxh6 *(55...Kxh6? 56.Qxf6+ Qg6 57.Qe7+-)* 56.Qxf6+ *(56.Rxd6 Qh2+ 57.Kf2 Ra2+* Skewer *58.Ke1 Qg3+ 59.Kd1 Qxd3+ 60.Ke1 Qe2#)* 56...Kh7 57.Qxf7+ Qxf7 58.Rxf7+ Kg8 59.Rbb7]
55...Qh2+ -0.37/5
[55...g3= -0.01/24 56.Nxg3 *(56.Nxd6? Qh2#)* 56...Qh2+ 57.Kf2 Rh4]
56.Kf2∓ Rh3 (→ ...Rf3+). Some like it hot **57.Ke1?** -34.88/28
[57.Ke2= -0.01/22 Rf3 *(57...Qxg2+ 58.Rf2=)* 58.Nh4+ *(58.Qxd6? Qxg2+; 58.Rxf3 gxf3+ 59.Ke3 Ra1∓)* 58...Qxh4 *(58...Kg7 59.Nxf3 Qxg2+ 60.Rf2=)* 59.gxf3]
57...Ra1+-+ 58.Ke2 Rxf1 -12.12/25
[Weaker is 58...Qxg2+ 59.Rf2 Qh1 *(59...Qg1 60.Qxf7+ Kxf7 61.Rb7+ Ke8 62.Nxd6+ Kd8 63.Nf7+ Ke8 64.Nd6+ Kd8 65.Nf7+ Ke8 66.Nd6+=)* 60.Qxf7+ *(60.Nh4+? Kh5-+)* 60...Kxf7 61.Rb7+ Kg6 62.Rg7+ Kh5 63.Rh7+ Kg5 64.Rg7+

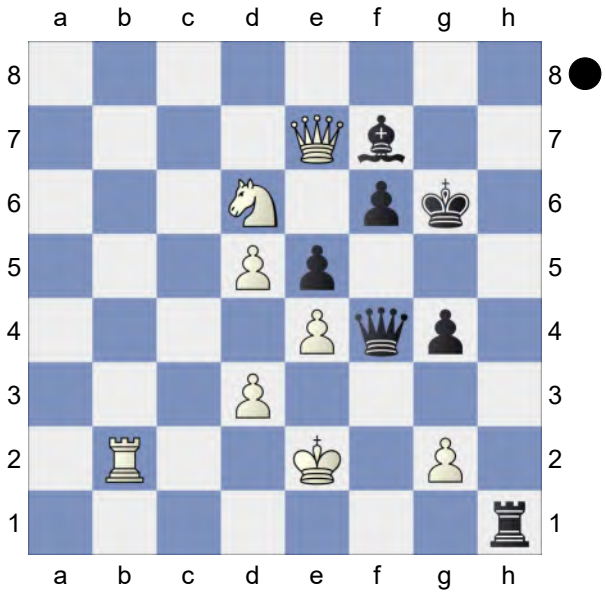
Kh5 65.Rh7+ Kg6 66.Rg7+ Kh5=]
[⩲58...Rf3 -31.63/28 59.Rxf3 gxf3+ 60.Ke3 Re1+ *(60...fxg2? perishes. 61.Rxg2+ Qxg2 62.Nh4+ Kg5 63.Nxg2+-)* 61.Kd2 fxg2 *(61...Qxg2+? 62.Kxe1 Qxb2 63.Nh4+ Kg5 64.Nxf3+ Kf4 65.Qxf6+ Ke3 66.Qh6+ Kxd3 67.Ng1-+)* 62.Qxf7+ Kxf7 63.Rb7+ Ke8 64.Nxd6+ Kf8 65.Rb8+ Ke7 66.Nf5+ Kd7 67.Rb7+ Kd8 68.Rb8+ Kc7 69.d4 g1Q+ *(69...g1R+ 70.Kd3 Qe2+ 71.Kc3 Rc1+ 72.Kb4 Rb1+ 73.Kc5 Qc2#)* 70.Kd3 Qe2+ *(70...Kxb8 71.d6 Qf1+ 72.Kc3 Rb1 73.dxe5 Qb2#)* 71.Kc3 Rc1+ *(71...Kxb8 72.Kb4 Qc2 73.Ne7 Qxd4+ 74.Kb5 Qca4#)* 72.Kb3 Rb1+ Skewer 73.Kc3 Qge1#]

59.Kxf1 Qf4+ -4.06/39
[⩲59...Rxd3 -10.38/25 (→ ...Qf4+) 60.Ke2 Rc3 *(60...Qxg2+ 61.Kxd3 Qxb2 62.Qf8∓)* 61.Qxf7+ Kxf7 62.Rb7+ Ke8 63.Nxd6+ Kf8 64.Rb8+ Ke7 65.Nf5+ Kd7]

60.Ke2 Rh1 Wards off Rb1. (→ ...Qf1+)

61.Nxd6? -#6/14
[61.Qxf7+-+ -3.35/31 Kxf7 62.Rb7+ Ke8 63.Ng7+ Kd8 64.Ne6+ Kc8 65.Nxf4 Kxb7 66.Ne6]

(Diagram)



61...Qf1+ Black mates. **62.Ke3 Qc1+ 63.Kf2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.75/Black=0.79 **63...Qe1#**
0-1

268 **C65**
□ **Esipenko,Andrey** **2686**
■ **Goganov,A.** **2594**
73rd ch-RUS 2020 (9.3) 14.12.2020
[Kitty Kat]

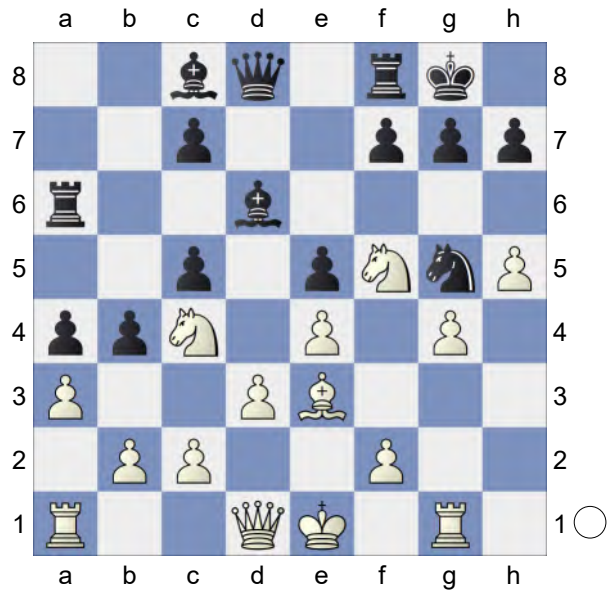
C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nc3 0-0 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.Ne2N**
[7.Be3 Bd6 8.h3 *(8.Bg5 Qe7 9.h3 Re8 10.g4 Qe6 11.Nh4 Nd7 12.Nf5 Nc5 13.h4 Bf8 14.h5 f6 15.Be3 Qf7 16.f4 exf4 17.Bxf4 b5 18.Qf3 Ne6 19.Be3 Bb7 20.0-0-0 b4 21.Na4 c5 22.h6 g6* 1-0 Molina,R (2881)-Ernst,H (2784) SUI corr 1988*)* 8...Re8 9.0-0 Nd7 10.Nd2 Nf8 11.Ne2 Ne6 12.Kh1 c5 13.a4 Nf4 14.Ng1 Be6 15.b3 f6 16.Nc4 Bf8 17.Bd2 Qd7 18.Kh2 Rad8 19.Qf3 Qf7 20.g3 Ng6 21.Ne3 Ne7 1-0 Salinas Herrera,P

(2468)-Kovalev,V (2603) Julius Baer Play In Match rapid 2023 (1.3)]
[7.h3 Re8 8.Be3 Bf8 9.Bg5 a5 10.a4 b6 11.0-0 Qd6 12.Be3 Nd7 13.Nd2 Ba6 14.f4 Qb4 15.f5 Qxb2 16.Nb3 Qxc3 17.Bd2 Qb2 18.Bc1 Qc3 19.Bd2 Qb2 20.Bc1 Qc3 21.Bd2 Carlsen,M (2863)-Aronian,L (2773) lichess.org (Int.-m/3-rapid) 145/(9) 2020]

7...Bd6 8.Ng3 The position is equal.

8...Nd7 9.Nf5 Nc5 10.g4 Ne6 11.h4 c5 12.Rg1 b5 13.Be3 a5 14.h5 a4 15.a3 b4 16.Nd2 Ra6 0.01/18
[16...f6∓ -0.52/18]

17.Nc4 Ng5 0.96/24
[17...Re8= -0.12/21 remains equal.]



18.Rg3 0.49/22
[18.Bxg5!± 0.96/24 Qxg5 19.Qf3]

18...bxa3 0.93/24
[18...Ne6± 0.49/22]

19.Rxa3 0.28/19
[19.bxa3± 0.93/24 Be6 20.Qd2 Nxe4 21.dxe4 Bxc4 22.Rd1]

19...Be6 1.26/22
[19...Ne6!= 0.28/19]

20.Qd2± White is much more active.

20...h6 21.Qc3 0.58/23
[21.Bxg5± 1.49/24 hxg5 22.Rg2]

21...f6 1.31/23
[21...Qf6± 0.58/23]

22.Bxg5 hxg5 23.Ke2 Qd7 24.Rg1 Rfa8 25.Rga1 Bf8 26.f3 1.14/26
[⌓26.Kf3 1.57/22]

26...Qc6 27.Nfe3 A dynamic duo of knights. **27...Kh7** 1.68/25
[27...Qb7± 1.17/22]

28.Qe1 1.12/24
[28.b3+- 1.68/25]

28...Qb7 1.57/25
[⌓28...Bd6 1.12/24]

29.Kf2 1.10/22
[⌓29.b3 1.57/25]

29...Kh8 1.64/27
[29...Bd6± 1.10/22]

30.R1a2 1.16/24
[30.b3+- 1.64/27]

30...Bd7 1.56/24
[Black should try 30...R8a7 1.16/24]

31.Nd5 1.16/23
[⌓31.Qa1 1.56/24]

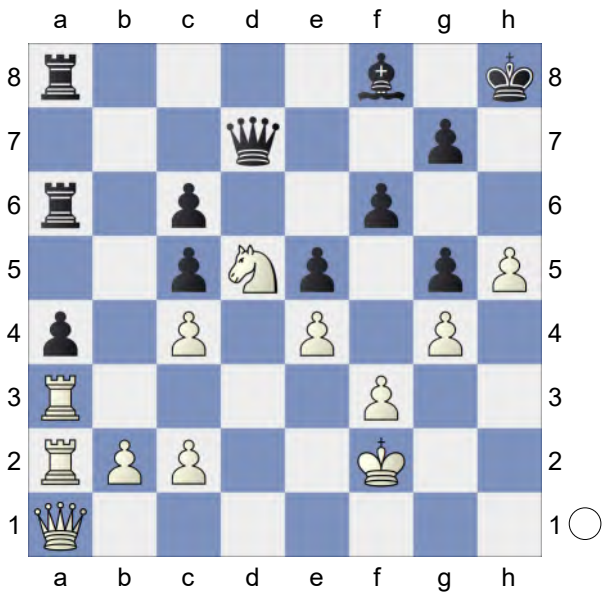
31...Be6 2.23/25
[31...R8a7± 1.16/23]

32.Nc3 Qc6 2.92/22
[32...Rd8 1.92/22 33.Rxa4 Rxa4 34.Nxa4 *(34.Rxa4 Bxc4 35.Rxc4 Qxb2±)* 34...Bxc4 35.dxc4 Kh7]

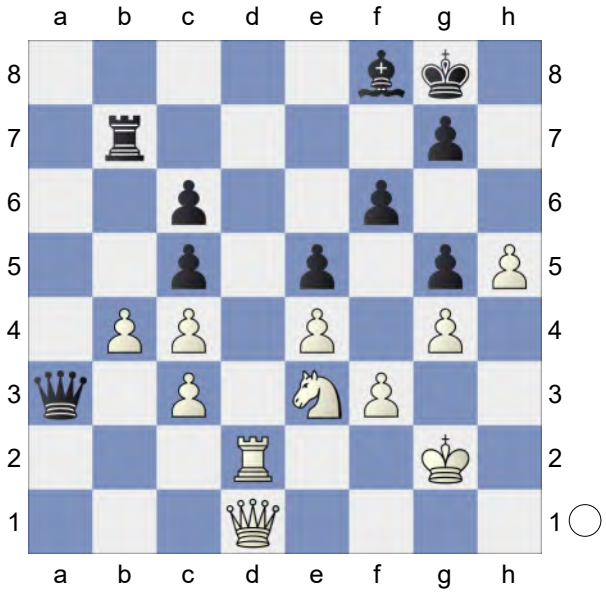
33.Qa1+- Bxc4 34.dxc4 Qd7 35.Nd5 1.79/23
[⌓35.Rxa4 3.02/23 Qd4+ 36.Ke2 Rxa4 37.Rxa4 Qxc4+ 38.Rxc4 Rxa1 39.Na4]

35...c6

(Diagram)



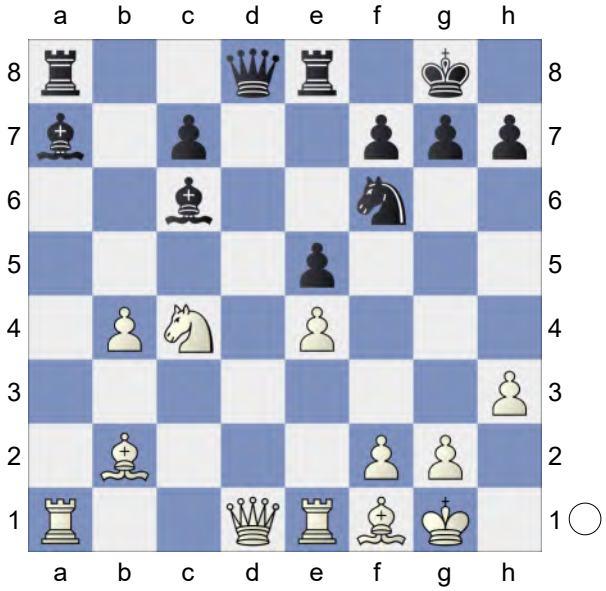
36.Ne3
[36.Rxa4 Rxa4 37.Rxa4 Rd8=]
36...Qd2+ 37.Kg3 Rd8 2.39/23
[37...Ra5 1.85/24 might work better. 38.Rd3 *(38.Rxa4? Rxa4 39.Rxa4 Rxa4-+)* 38...Qb4]
38.Qg1
[38.Rxa4? Qxe3 *(38...Rxa4? 39.Rxa4 Qxe3 40.Ra3-+)* 39.R4a3 *(39.Rxa6? Rd2 40.Qf1 Qf4+ 41.Kh3 Qh2#)* 39...Qf4+ 40.Kh3 Rd2-+]
38...Qb4 39.Qc1 Ra7 40.c3 Qb8 41.Rxa4 Rad7 42.Ra6 Qb7 43.Qa1 Rd2? 4.64/24
[43...Qc7 2.34/23 44.Qf1 Kh7]
44.Ra8 Kg8 45.Rxd8 Rxd8 46.Qc1 2.36/27
[⌓46.Ra7 4.27/26 Qb3 47.Qa2]
46...Rd3 47.Kf2 Rd8 48.Ke2 Qd7 49.Qc2 Qb7 50.Ra1 Rb8 51.Rb1 Qa6 52.Rd1 Qa2 53.Rd2 Rb7 54.Kf2 Rb6 55.Kg3 Rb8 56.Qc1 Rb7 57.Kf2 Rb8 58.Rc2 Rd8 59.Qe1 Rd7 60.Rd2 Rb7 61.Qe2 Qb1 62.Nd1 Be7 Repels Rd8+
63.Ne3? -0.01/28
[63.Qf1+- 2.10/26]
63...Rb8? 2.20/27
[63...Bf8!= -0.01/28 and Black stays safe.]
64.Kg2 Rb7 65.Nd1 Kf8 66.Kh3 Kf7 67.Qf2 Kg8 68.Ne3 Qh1+ 69.Kg3 Qb1 70.Qf1 Qa2 71.Qe2 Black must now prevent h6!. **71...Bf8** 3.16/26
[⌓71...Kh7 1.78/24 72.Nf5 Bf8]
72.Kh2 Qb1 73.Kg2? -0.01/24
[Better is 73.Nd1+- 2.03/25]
73...Qa1? 2.44/26
[73...Be7!= -0.01/24]
74.Qd1 Qa2? 5.38/25
[74...Qa8 2.48/23 75.Nf5 Rb8]
75.b4 Qa3? 8.34/24
[75...Qa8 2.48/24 76.b5 cxb5]



76.b5! cxb5
[76...Rf7 77.bxc6]
77.Rd8 Qd5+ would kill now. **77...Rf7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.23 (precise) /Black=0.33 **78.Qd5**
1-0

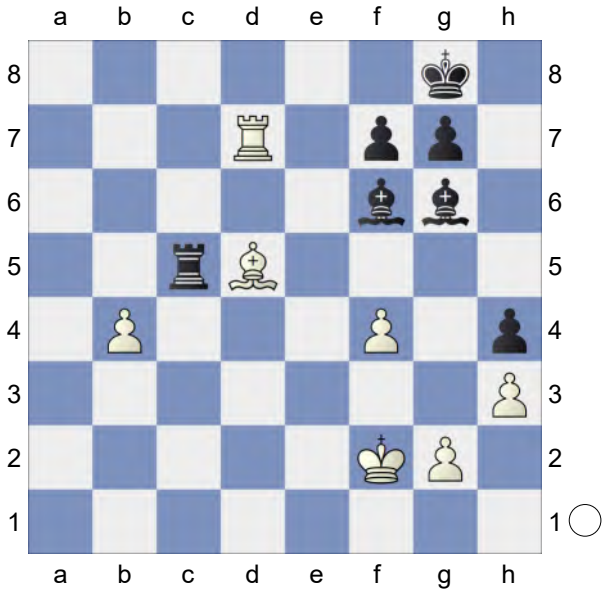
269 **C65**
□ **Jones,G.** **2654**
■ **Parligras,M.** **2576**
23rd European Teams (7.7) 19.11.2021
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.Re1 Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4** White has an edge. **9...a6N**
[9...c6 10.Bf1 *(10.Bd3 Ng6 11.h3 Re8 12.Qc2 Bc7 13.Be3 h6 14.Nbd2 a5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.b4 Be6 17.Bc4 axb4 18.cxb4 Bb6 19.Bxb6 Qxb6 20.Qc3* Saric,I (2665)-Georgiadis,N (2553) Oesterreich 154/(123) 2022*)* 10...exd4 *(10...Ng6 11.Nbd2 Re8 12.h3 h6 13.Qc2 Be6 14.b4 a5 15.b5 Rc8 16.bxc6 bxc6 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 dxe5 19.Nc4* #10 29. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1,a-7...Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 c6*)* 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.Ra3 Bh5 13.h3 d5 14.e5 Ne4 15.Nbd2 Nxf2 16.Kxf2 Bxd4+ 17.Kg3 Qc7 18.Be2 Bxe5+ 19.Nxe5 Qxe5+ 20.Kf2 #8 29. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1,a-7...Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 c6]
[9...a5 10.Nbd2 exd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.e5 Nfd5 14.exd6 Qxd6 15.Nc4 #6 Quickstarter Guide-Berlin 6...d6]
10.Bf1 Ng6 11.Nbd2
[11.a5!? Ba7□ 12.h3=]
11...Re8 12.h3
[12.a5!? Ba7□ 13.b4=]
12...Ba7 13.b4 Bd7 14.Bb2 b5 1.48/24
[14...Nh5± 0.33/19]
15.axb5± axb5 16.c4 bxc4 17.dxe5
[17.Bxc4?! exd4 18.Qb3 *(18.Nxd4 Ne5=; 18.Bxd4 Bxd4 19.Nxd4 Ne5=)* 18...Re7±]
17...Nxe5 18.Nxe5
[18.Nxc4 Nxf3+ *(18...Nxc4 19.Bxc4 Bc6 20.Ng5±)* 19.Qxf3 Bc6±]
18...dxe5 19.Nxc4
[19.Bxc4 c5=]
This move loses the game for Black.
19...Bc6? 2.74/24
[19...Qe7± 1.19/22]



20.Nxe5+-
[20.Bxe5 Nxe4 21.Re2 Qg5∓]
20...Qxd1 21.Rexd1
[Weaker is 21.Raxd1 Nxe4 22.Nxc6 Bxf2+ 23.Kh2 Bg3+ 24.Kg1 Bf2+ 25.Kh2 Bg3+ 26.Kg1 Bf2+=]
21...Bxe4 22.Bc4 Kf8 23.Nd7+
[23.Nxf7 Bb6 24.Rxa8 Rxa8=]
[Less strong is 23.Bxf7 Rxe5 24.Bxe5 Kxf7+-]
23...Nxd7 24.Rxd7 Bg6 25.Rxc7 Bb6 26.Rxa8 Rxa8 27.Rb7 Bd8 5.07/24
[⌓27...Rc8 3.61/26 28.Rxb6 Rxc4 29.Rb8+ Deflection Ke7 30.Bxg7 Kd7]
28.Bd4 h5 5.46/26
[⌓28...Bf6 3.78/23]
29.Bd5 Rc8 30.Bc5+ Kg8 31.Rd7 Bf6 32.f4 and g4 should not be overlooked

32...h4 33.Kf2 Rxc5? 8.83/29
[33...Bc3 3.33/22 34.g4 hxg3+ 35.Kxg3 Kh7]

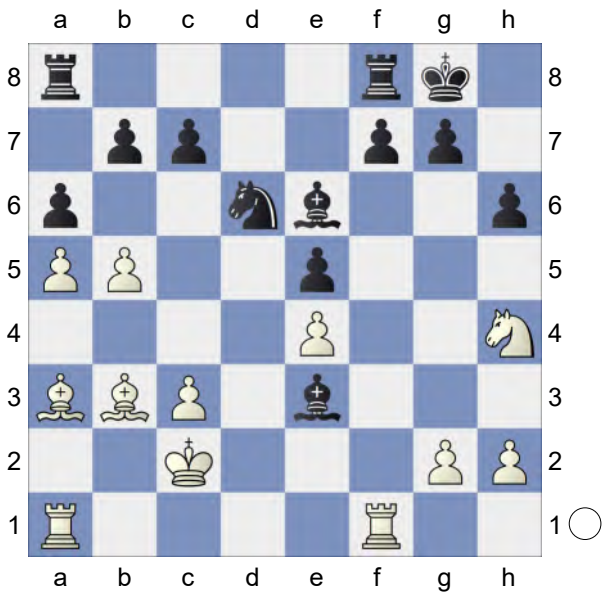


34.bxc5 KRB-KB. White is clearly winning. **34...Bd4+ 35.Kf3 Bh5+ 36.Ke4 Bxc5 37.Kf5 Kf8 38.Kg5 Bg6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.45 **39.f5**
1-0

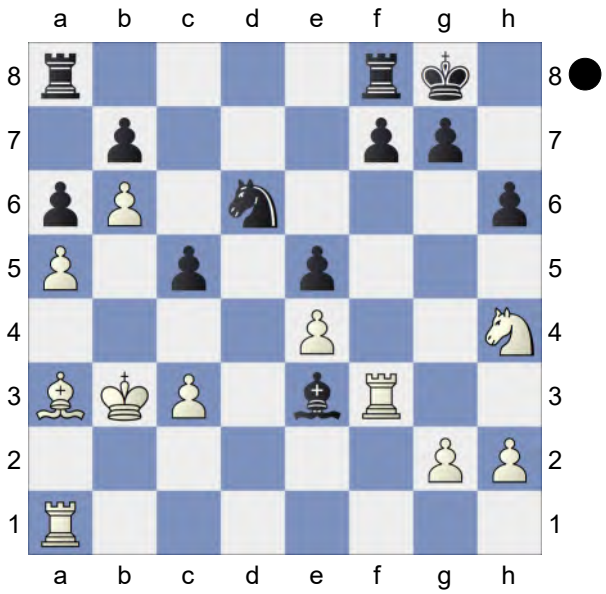
270 **C65**
□ **Bjerre,Jonas Buhl** **2633**
■ **Gretarsson,Hj** **2518**
24th European Teams (8.15) 19.11.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d5 6.exd5 Qxd5 7.Bc4 Qd6 8.Nbd2** The position is equal.
[8.b4!? Bb6□ 9.0-0=]
8...Bf5 9.b4 Bb6 10.Ng5! 0-0
[10...Bxd3 11.Nxf7 Qf8 *(11...Qd7 12.Nxh8 e4 13.Bxd3+-)* 12.Bxd3± *(12.Nxh8 Bxf2+* Decoy *13.Kxf2 Ng4+* Discovered Attack (Double Check) *14.Kg3 Qf4+* Skewer, Double Attack *15.Kh4 g5+ 16.Kh5 Nf6+ 17.Kh6 g4+ 18.Kg7 Nh5+ 19.Kg8 0-0-0#)*]
11.Nde4 Nxe4 12.dxe4 Qxd1+ 13.Kxd1 Bg4+ 14.Kc2 h6!
[14...Bxf2? 15.Rf1 Be6 16.Nxe6 *(16.Bxe6 fxe6 17.Nxe6 Rf7±)* 16...fxe6 17.Bxe6+ Kh8 18.a4±]
15.Nf3 Bxf2 16.Rf1 Bb6 17.a4 White has compensation. **17...a6! 18.Nh4 Ne7** Dodges Ng6
[18...Nd8 19.a5 Ba7 20.Nf5 Ne6 21.Bxh6 Bxf5 22.exf5 gxh6 23.fxe6 fxe6 24.Bxe6+ Kg7 25.Rad1 Rxf1 26.Rxf1 Rf8 27.Rxf8 Kxf8 28.Bc8 b6 29.Bxa6 c5 30.Bb5 cxb4 31.a6 bxc3 32.g4 1-0 Osnos,V (2768)-Ferri, S (2731) WchT Students 20th final C 1974]
19.Ba3N With the idea b5.
[19.a5 Ba7 20.Ba3 Bd7 *(20...b5 21.axb6 Bxb6 22.Nf5 Bxf5 23.exf5* 27. Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3-5...d5 6. exd5 Qxd5 7.Bc4 Qd6*)* 21.Bb3 Rae8 *(21...Bc6 22.b5 Bxe4+ 23.Kb2 Rae8 24.b6 cxb6 25.Rae1 Bd3 26.Rf3 e4 27.Rxd3 exd3 28.Bxe7* 27. Anti-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3-5...d5 6. exd5 Qxd5 7.Bc4 Qd6*)* 22.b5 Bxb5 23.Bxe7 Rxe7 24.Ng6 Rd7 25.Nxf8 Kxf8 Ch. 9 - Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 witho-The Mainline: 5.c3 with 6.exd]
19...Nc8! 20.a5
[20.Nf5 Bxf5 21.exf5 Re8 22.Bb3]
20...Nd6 21.Bb3 Be3 22.b5! Threatens to win with Bxd6. **22...Be6** 0.65/27
[22...Rfd8= -0.01/23]

(Diagram)

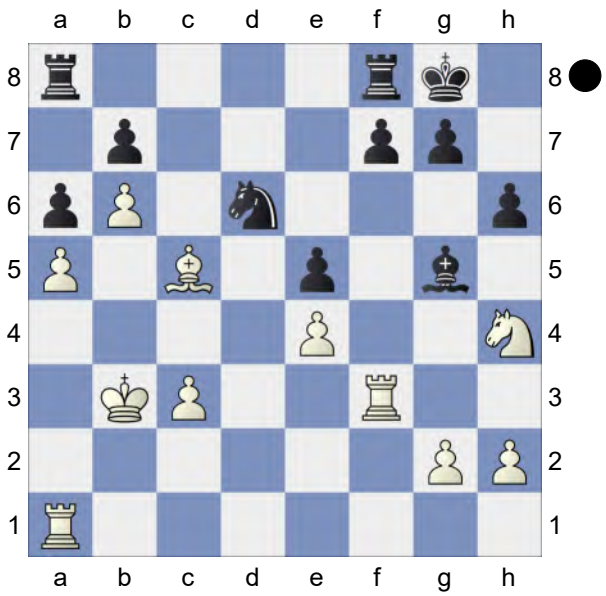


23.b6!± c5 24.Rf3? -2.27/27
[24.Bxe6!± 0.75/24 and life is bright. fxe6 25.Nf3]
24...Bxb3+-+ 25.Kxb3

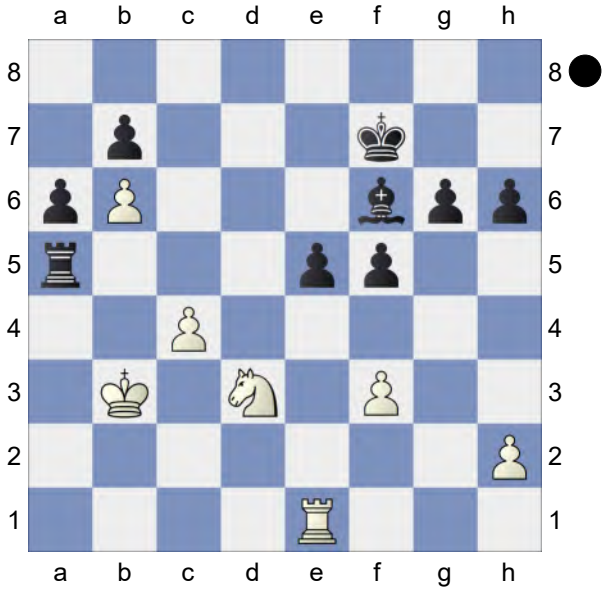


Bg5
[Don't blunder 25...c4+? 26.Kb2+-]
26.Bxc5

(Diagram)

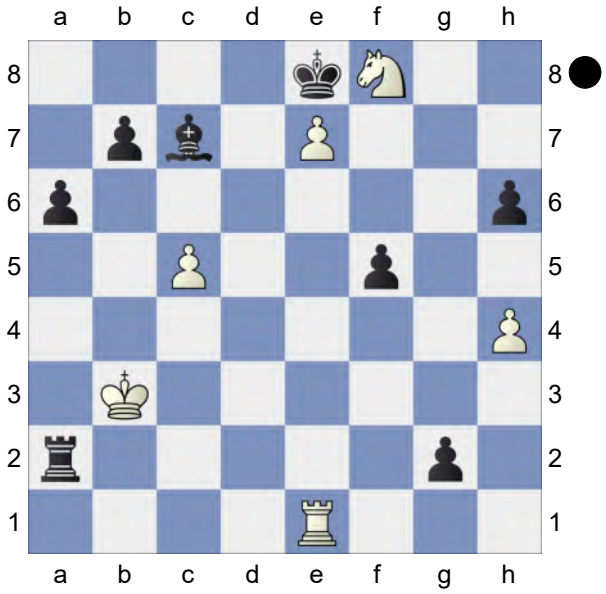


Nxe4 27.Bxf8 Rxf8 28.Nf5 -2.65/27
[⌓28.Rf5 -1.84/24 Bxh4 29.Rxe5]
28...g6 29.Ng3 Nd2+ 30.Kc2 Nxf3 31.gxf3 Endgame KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **31...f5** Prevents Ne4 **32.Re1 Bf6 33.Ne2 Kf7 34.c4 Rc8 35.Kb3 Rc5 36.Nc1 Rxa5 37.Nd3**



e4! 38.fxe4 Bd4 39.e5? -4.87/22
[39.Kb4 -2.94/22 Bxb6 40.exf5 Rxf5 41.Ne5+ Ke6 42.Ng4+ Kd6 43.Rd1+ Kc6 44.Rd3]
39...g5
[39...Bxb6 40.e6+ Ke8 *(40...Ke7*

41.Nf4∓) 41.Nf4∓]
40.e6+ Ke7 41.h4? -6.09/24
[41.Kc2 -2.84/24 Ke8 *(41...Bxb6 42.Nb4=)* 42.Nb4]
41...g4
[41...gxh4? 42.Re2-+]
[Less strong is 41...Bxb6 42.hxg5 hxg5 43.Nb4∓]
42.Kb4 Bxb6 -2.89/21
[⌓42...Ra1 -6.59/23 43.Rxa1 Bxa1]
43.Nf4 Bc7 44.Ng6+ Ke8 White does not recover from this. **45.e7?** -8.81/20
[45.Rd1∓ -1.30/21]
45...g3 Black is clearly winning. **46.c5 g2 47.Nf8 Ra2** and ...Ba5+ would now be decisive **48.Kb3**



Weighted Error Value: White=0.78/ Black=0.15 (very precise) **48...Re2!!** Promotion
0-1

271 **C65**
□ **Svidler,Peter** **2735**
■ **Meier,Georg** **2628**
Grenke Chess Classic 6th (3) 22.04.2019
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** Krasenkow,Michal **1...e5**
[1...c5 Krasenkow,Michal 2.Nf3 d6 3.Bb5+]
2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6
[3...a6 Krasenkow,Michal 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.0-0 Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 0-0 9.h3]
4.d3 Bc5 5.c3
[5.Nbd2 Krasenkow,Michal]
[5.Bxc6 Krasenkow,Michal]
[5.0-0 Krasenkow,Michal]
5...0-0 6.0-0 d6
[6...d5 Krasenkow,Michal 7.exd5 Qxd5 8.Bc4 Qd6 9.Nbd2]
7.Nbd2 a6 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 The position is equal. **10.cxd4 Ba7 11.Qc2 Re8**
[11...c5 Krasenkow,Michal 12.d5]
12.Re1
[12.Qxc6 Krasenkow,Michal Rb8 13.Re1 Bb7 14.Qc2 Qe7]
12...c5 13.d5 Bd7N 0.60/19
[13...Qd7= 0.23/18 was preferrable.]
[13...Bb7
A) 14.Nc4 Krasenkow,Michal c6 *(14...h6 15.Bd2)* 15.e5 cxd5 *(15...dxe5 16.d6)* 16.Nxd6 Rxe5 17.Rxe5 Qxd6 18.Bf4;
B) 14.b3 c6 15.dxc6 Bxc6 16.Bb2 d5 17.exd5 Qxd5 18.Nc4 Rad8 19.Nce5 Ba8 20.Rad1 Qb7 21.Qc4 Ne4 22.Rxd8 Rxd8 23.h4 Bb8 24.h5 Bxe5 25.Bxe5 h6 26.Bf4 Qb4 27.Be3 Bd5 28.Qxa6 Chapter Cg-Games Game 1 (59)]

[13...h6 14.b3 Bb7 15.Bb2 c6 16.dxc6 Bxc6 17.Rad1 d5 18.Ne5 Bb7 19.exd5 Nxd5 20.Qf5 1-0 (20) Melnichenko,L (2443)-9.c5 ?e8 10.cd6 cd6 (2182) Tomsk RUS 2014 CYB 12 [Lorentzen,Oystein]]
[13...c6 Krasenkow,Michal 14.dxc6 Qc7 15.b3 Qxc6 16.Bb2]

14.Nc4±
[14.b3 Krasenkow,Michal]

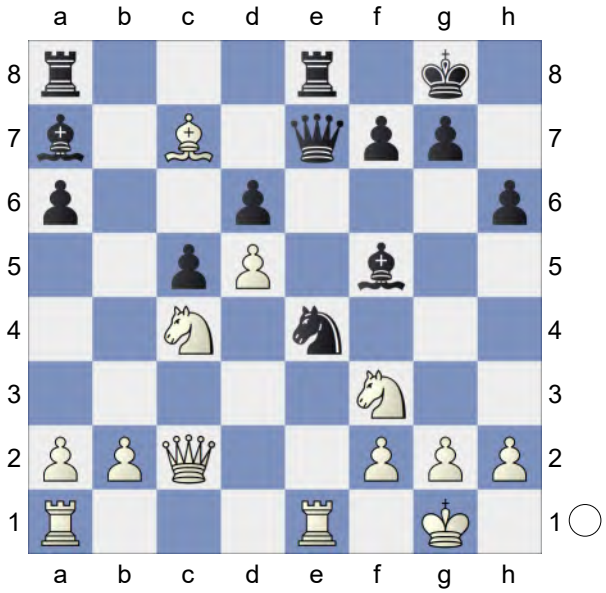
14...h6
[14...Bb5 Krasenkow,Michal
A) 15.b3 c6 *(15...h6 16.a4)* 16.Bg5;
B) 15.Bg5]
[14...Bg4 Krasenkow,Michal 15.Bg5 Bxf3 16.gxf3 h6 17.Bh4 g5 18.Bg3 Nh5 19.Qc3]

15.Bd2
[15.b3 Krasenkow,Michal]

15...Qe7
[15...Rb8 Krasenkow,Michal 16.Ba5 Bb5 17.b3]
[15...Bb5 Krasenkow,Michal 16.b3 c6 *(16...Qe7 17.Bc3)* 17.dxc6 Bxc6 18.e5 dxe5 *(18...Bxf3 19.exf6 Bc6 20.fxg7)* 19.Nfxe5]

16.Ba5 Krasenkow,Michal: 'An old line, popular in the last century.' **16...Nxe4** 0.96/23
[16...c6± 0.63/17]
[16...Bb5 Krasenkow,Michal is a more common alternative. 17.Nfd2]

17.Bxc7± Bf5
[17...Bb8 Krasenkow,Michal 18.Bxb8 Raxb8 19.Nfd2 1-0 (22) De Firmian Nick E (2605)-Huebner Robert (2630) Polanica Zdroj 1995 [De Firmian,N] Bf5 20.Re3 Nxd2 21.Qxf5 *(21.Qxd2 Qc7 22.Rae1∓ L.Ftacnik)* 21...Ne4 *(21...Nxc4 22.Rxe7 Rxe7 23.b3)* 22.Qf4 *(22.f3 Qf6* 1-0 (31) Schmaltz, R (2490)-Wehner,R (2284) Baden 2017 *23.fxe4∞ Qd4 24.Rc1 Rb4)* 22...Rb4 23.Rc1 Qg5 24.Qxg5 hxg5 25.b3]



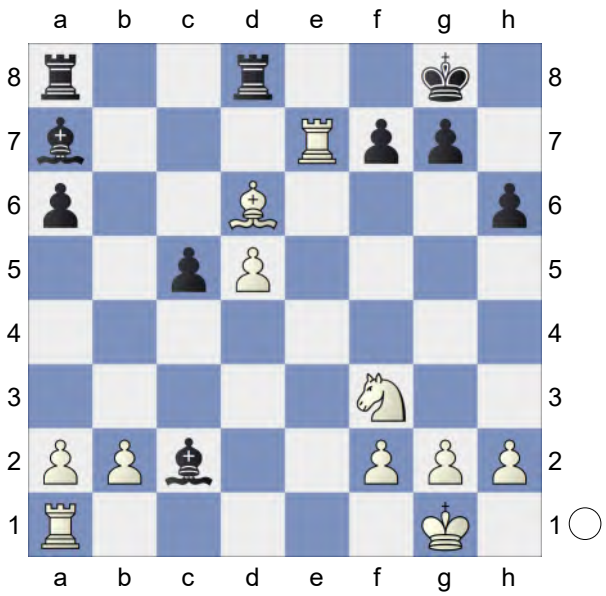
Krasenkow,Michal: '!' **18.Nxd6!**
[18.Ba5! Krasenkow,Michal Qd7]
[18.Bxd6 Krasenkow,Michal Nxd6 19.Rxe7 Bxc2]

18...Nxd6 Krasenkow,Michal: 'Georg Meier misses the right move, already seen before:'
[18...Qxc7! (Krasenkow,Michal) - 16... ♕xd2+ 19.Nxf5?]

19.Rxe7 Bxc2
[19...Rxe7 Krasenkow,Michal 20.Bxd6∓ 1-0 (57) Cori Quispe,K (2468)-Mariani,D (2055) Montevideo 2018 *(20.Qc3 Rxc7)* 20...Bxc2!? 21.Bxe7!]

20.Bxd6 Red8
[20...Be4 Krasenkow,Michal 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Re1]

(Diagram)



21.Rc1! Threatens to win with Bc7. 0x0. 0025010a926edp-1022s more active pieces. Krasenkow,Michal: '±'

[21.Be5 Krasenkow,Michal Rxd5= 1/2 (33) Monin,N (2359)-Gavrilov,A (2438) St Petersburg 2001 22.Re1 c4= 1-0 (49) Nijboer,F (2475)-Kuijf,M (2470) Wijk aan Zee 1996 CBM 052 [Knaak,R]]

21...Rxd6

[21...Bf5 22.Bxc5]

22.Rxc2 Krasenkow,Michal: '?!'

22...Rxd5 23.g3 Bb6 24.Ne5 Rc8

[24...Rf8 Krasenkow,Michal 25.Nc4 Bd8 26.Ra7 Bf6 27.Rxa6]

[24...Ra7 Krasenkow,Michal 25.Re8+ Kh7 26.Nc4 Bc7 *(26...Bd8 27.Ne3)* 27.Rc8]

25.Nc4

[25.Nxf7∓ (Krasenkow,Michal) 1-0 (56) Nijboer,F (2571)-Porat,S (2444) Cappelle-la-Grande 2006]

25...Rc6 26.Rce2

[26.Re8+ Krasenkow,Michal Kh7 1/2 (27) Finnie,D (2533)-Sowden,E (2394) BFCC Email 2002 27.Rf8]

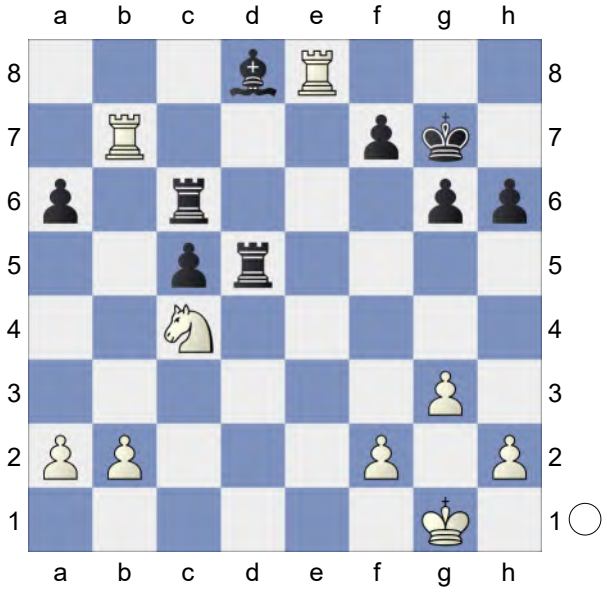
26...g6? 2.86/22 This move loses the game for Black.

[26...Bd8± 0.96/23 is a better defense. 27.Ra7 Krasenkow,Michal]

27.Rb7+- Bd8

[27...Bc7 Krasenkow,Michal 28.Re8+ Kg7 29.Re7]

28.Re8+ Kg7



29.Ne5! Krasenkow,Michal: '±' Krasenkow,Michal: 'Comparing to the 26...♖xg2+ line, Black has no extra pawn and a poor position.' **29...Rd1+**

[29...Rc7 Krasenkow,Michal 30.Rxd8]

30.Kg2 Rf6 31.Rd7 Inhibits Rd2.

[Much less strong is 31.Nd7

A) 31...Rf5 Krasenkow,Michal 32.g4 *(32.Rxd8 Rd2)*;

B) 31...Rd2 32.Nxf6 *(32.Rxd8? Rfxf2+ 33.Kh3 Rxh2+ 34.Kg4 Rdf2-+)* 32...Bxf6+-]

31...Rxd7 32.Nxd7 Rd6 33.Rxd8 Endgame KRN-KR **33...c4**

[33...f5∞ (Krasenkow,Michal) 1-0 (41) Perez,M (2406)-Catelli,H (2200) Mar del Plata 2017 34.Nxc5]

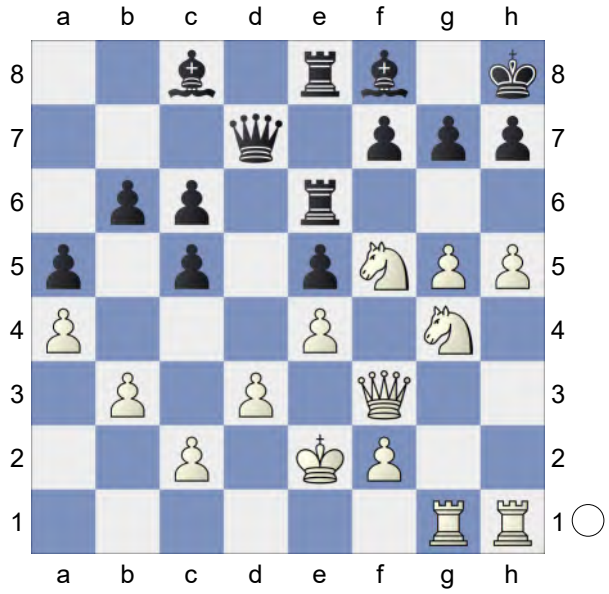
34.Kf3 g5 35.h3 h5 36.a4 a5 37.Ke4 Krasenkow,Michal: '!' **37...Rd2 38.f4 h4 39.gxh4 gxf4 40.Kxf4 Rf2+ 41.Kg3 Rxb2** Krasenkow,Michal: ', and Black

successfully defends.' **42.Rc8** Krasenkow,Michal: '!' **42...Rb4 43.Ne5 Rxa4 44.Nxc4** Krasenkow,Michal: '±!'
[44.Rxc4 Krasenkow,Michal Rxc4 45.Nxc4 a4 46.Kg4 Kh6]
44...Ra1 45.Ra8 Krasenkow,Michal: '→' **45...a4** Krasenkow,Michal: ' ⩲!' **46.Ra6 Rg1+ 47.Kh2 Ra1 48.Nb6 a3 49.Nc4 a2 50.Ne3** Krasenkow,Michal: '?!' **50...f5?** 7.85/23
[50...Kh7 3.80/27 Krasenkow,Michal: '∓' Krasenkow,Michal: '0-1 (45) Sahu, S (2340)-Singh,G (2265) Kolkata 1996' 51.Nd5 *(51.Nc2* Krasenkow,Michal *)* 51...Kg7]
[50...Re1∞ Krasenkow,Michal 51.Nf5+!? Kh7 52.Rxa2]
51.Nxf5+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.04 (flawless) /Black=0.20 (precise)
1-0

272 **C65**
□ **Firouzja,Alireza** **2759**
■ **Zou,Chen** **2449**
Titled Tuesday intern op 09th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.h3**
[6.Nxe5? is the wrong capture. Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.Nc3
[7.Be3 Bd6 8.Nc3 c5 9.0-0 Nf8 10.Nd2 Ng6 11.Nc4 Be6 12.Ne2 Qd7 13.Nxd6+ cxd6 14.f4 exf4 15.Nxf4 Nxf4 16.Rxf4 b6 17.Qh5 d5 18.d4 c4 19.b3 Qc6 20.Raf1 0-0-0 21.bxc4 Qxc4 1-0 Molina,R (2872)-Deslandes,P (2782) (ch) 4/829 Bulgaria 1967 (4)]
7...0-0 8.Be3 The position is equal. 8.0-0 is the fancy move. 8.0-0 ist der angesagte Zug. **8...Bd6 9.g4N** An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante.
[9.Ne2 Re8 10.g4 Nf8 11.Ng3 Ne6 12.Nf5 g6 13.Nh6+ Kg7 14.g5 c5 15.Ng4 Nd4 16.Nfh2 Be7 17.h4 f5 18.gxf6+ Bxf6 19.c3 Ne6 20.Qf3 Nf4 21.0-0-0 h5 22.Nxe5 Bxe5 23.Bxf4 Qxh4 1-0 Altshuler,R-Estrin,Y Wch5 Final 6568 1965 24.Bxe5+ Rxe5 25.Qe3 Qf6 26.Rdg1 Bd7 27.Nf3 Ree8 28.Rxh5 Rh8 29.Rhg5 Rh6 30.Ne5 Be8 31.Ng4 Rh3 32.Nxf6 Rxe3 33.Nxe8+ Rxe8 34.Rxg6+ Kh7 35.fxe3 1-0 Hummel,E (2239)-Rupsys,R (2051) 13. ♘c4 ♘b6_115831 1995 (1)]
[9.0-0 Re8 10.Nd2 Nf8 11.Nc4 Ng6 12.d4 Be6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.d5 cxd5 15.Nxd5 Qd7 16.Qd3 Bxd5 17.Qxd5 Ne7 18.Qd3 d5 19.exd5 Qxd5 20.Rfd1 Red8 21.Qe2 Qa5 22.Qg4 Qa6 23.Rxd8+ Rxd8 1-0 Caruana,F (2786)-Niemann,H (2667) FIDE Grand Swiss 2023 (2)]
9...c5 10.Ne2 a5N
[Vorgänger: 10...Nb8 11.Ng3 Nc6 12.Nf5 Re8 13.h4 Bf8 14.h5 a5 15.c3 -0.23/27 *(15.a4!±* 0.32/25) 15...a4= 16.Qc2 Be6 1-0 So,W (2778)-Karjakin,S (2782) Norway Masters blitz 6th 2018 (6)]
11.a4! Ra6 12.b3 Re8 13.Ng3 Nf8 14.Nf5 Ng6 0.49/24
[14...Ne6= 0.08/25 is superior.]
15.h4 Bf8 0.71/21
[15...Ne7± 0.34/27]
16.h5 Nf4 17.Qd2 0.11/25
[17.Rg1± 0.52/21]
17...Ng2+ 18.Ke2 Threatens to win with

Ra1-g1. **18...Nxe3 19.Qxe3 Rc6** 1.00/22
[19...h6± 0.33/27]
20.Nd2 0.36/25 White is much more active.
[20.Qd2± 1.00/22]
20...b6 1.48/25
[20...h6!± 0.36/25]
21.Rag1± Rce6 2.47/19
[21...c4± 1.42/26 is a better defense.]
22.g5+- Qd7 23.Qf3 Rd8 24.Nc4 Nf5-h6+! would now be deadly. **24...Rde8 25.Nce3 c6 26.Ng4** Strongly threatening Ng4-f6+! Excellent horsemanship. **26...Kh8**

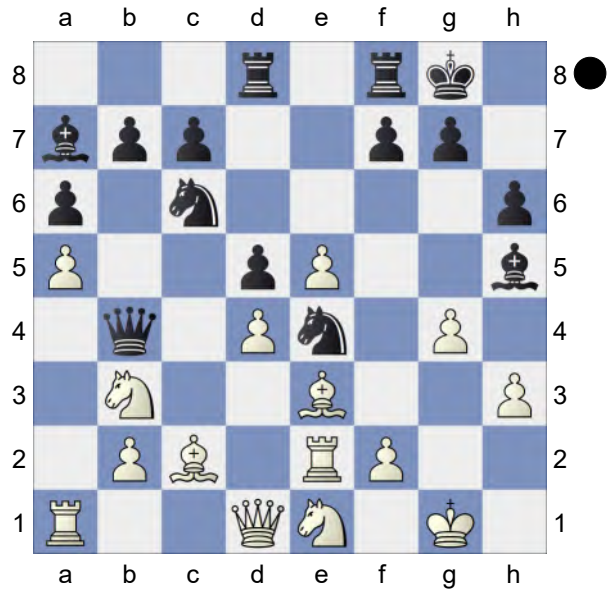


27.Nf6! gxf6
[27...Rd8 28.Nxd7]
28.gxf6 White threatens Qf3-g4 and mate. **28...Rxf6** White must now prevent ...Bf8-h6. **29.Qg3 Bh6 30.Nxh6** Remove Defender **30...Rxh6 31.Qg7#** Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.70
1-0

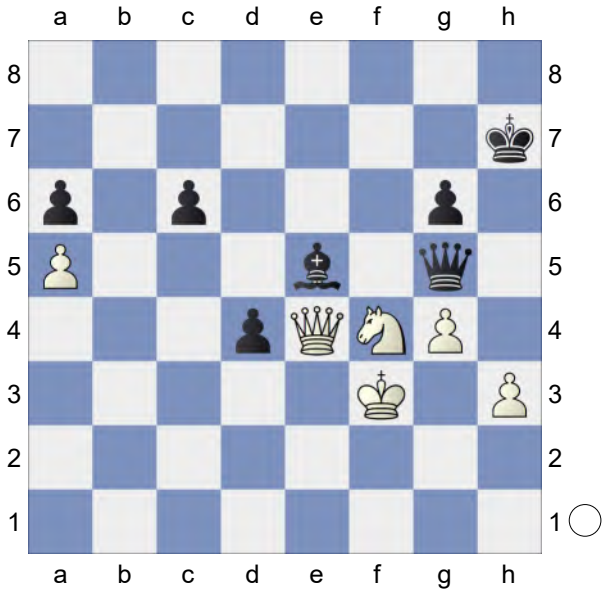
273 **C65**
□ **Ponomariov,Ruslan** **2653**
■ **Kjartansson,Gudmundur** **2470**
EU-ch 24th Petrovac (2) 09.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 d6 6.c3 0-0 7.h3 Ne7 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bb6 10.0-0 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.a4!** now scores much better than the old 12.Bd3. punktet besser als das ältere 12.Ld3.
[12.Bd3 Bf5 13.Qe2 Nc6 14.Rd1 Bxd4 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Bxe4 Bxe4 17.Nxd4 Qd5 18.Nxc6 Qxc6 19.f3 Bd5 20.b3 a5 21.Ba3 Rfd8 22.Rac1 Qb6+ 23.Kh1 Be6 24.Rxd8+ Rxd8 25.Rd1 Rxd1+ 26.Qxd1 h6 ½-½ Andreikin,D (2709)-Karjakin,S (2766) Candidates Tournament 2014 (3)]
12...Bf5N
[12...a5 13.Re1 Bf5 14.Ra3 c5 15.Nxe4 Bxe4 16.Bg5 h6 17.Bh4 cxd4 18.Nxd4 Qc7 19.f3 Bc2 20.Qd2 Bxd4+ 21.Qxd4 Nf5 22.Qf2 Nxh4 23.Rc3 Qe7 24.Rxc2 Rac8 25.Rd2 Rfd8 26.f4 Qc5 27.e6 ½-½ Shankland,S (2677)-So,W (2751) ch-2024 Saint Louis USA (3.5)]
13.Nb3N
[13.Qe2 a6 14.Bd3 Nc6 15.Nxe4 dxe4 16.Bxe4 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 Bxe4 18.Qxe4 Qxd4 19.Qxb7 Qxe5 ½-½ Haapamaeki,M (2299)-Paine,K (2321) EU-chT11 sf1 email 2017 [8]]
13...a6 14.Bd3 Nc6 15.a5 Ba7 16.Bf4 0.01/18
[16.Be3!± 0.46/18]
16...Qe7 0.46/18
[16...f6= 0.01/18]

17.Re1 Qb4 18.Bc2 0.01/19
[White should try 18.Be3± 0.54/17]
18...Bg6 19.Be3 h6 0.62/16
[Black should try 19...Bh5= 0.03/18]
20.Re2 -0.01/18
[20.Nh4± 0.62/16]
20...Rad8= 21.Ne1 Bh5 22.g4



Bg6 23.Kg2 0.01/21
[23.f4± 0.47/18]
23...f5 24.exf6 Rxf6 White should prevent ...Qb4-d6. **25.f3 Ng5** 0.36/20
[25...Nd6= -0.04/19]
26.Bxg6 -0.01/20
[26.h4± 0.36/20 Ne6 27.Bxg6 Rxg6 28.Nd3]
26...Rxg6 27.Nd3 Qb5 28.Bxg5
[28.f4 Re8 29.fxg5 Rge6 30.Kf2]
28...hxg5 29.Rc1! Nxd4
[29...Bxd4? 30.Rxc6 Rxc6 31.Nxd4+-]
[29...Rf6 30.Rc3 Qa4 31.Ndc5 Bxc5 32.Rxc5 b6]
30.Nxd4 Bxd4 31.Rxc7 Black should prevent Re2-e7.
[31.h4 gxh4 32.Nf4 Rf6 33.Ne6]
31...Rc6! 32.Rxc6 bxc6 33.f4 gxf4 34.Nxf4 Bxb2 35.Qc2 Bf6 36.Qf5 Black must now prevent g4-g5. **36...d4**
[36...Qxa5? perishes. 37.g5 Rf8 38.Ng6+- *(38.gxf6 Qd8+-; 38.Qe6+ Rf7+-)*]
37.Qg6 Qg5 38.Re8+ Rxe8 39.Qxe8+ Endgame KQB-KQN. Black is a pawn up. The position is equal. **39...Kh7 40.Qe4+**
[40.Ne6 Qd2+ 41.Kh1 Qe1+ 42.Kg2]
40...g6
[40...Kh6 41.Qe8 g6 42.Kf3 Be5]
41.Kf3 Be5
[41...Qxa5 42.Qxg6+ Kh8 43.Qxf6++-]
[41...Bg7 42.h4 Qxh4 43.Qxg6+ Kh8]



42.Nxg6 Deflection **42...Qxg6**
[42...Qf6+ looks sharper. 43.Ke2 d3+ 44.Kd2 Qf2+]
43.Qxe5 KQ-KQ **43...Qd3+ 44.Kf4 Qd2+ 45.Kg3 d3 46.g5 Qc1 47.Qe7+ Kg8 48.Qe6+ Kg7 49.Qh6+ Kg8** White must now prevent ...Qc1-e3+. **50.Qe6+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

274 **C65**
□ **Ayush,Sharma** **2466**
■ **Martirosyan,Haik M** **2656**
Masters Open 2024 (2.5) 04.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.Nf3** Hoping for Nxd4.
[7.c3 Bb6 8.0-0 *(8.d4 c6 9.dxe5 cxb5 10.exf6 Qxf6 11.0-0 0-0 12.Nf3 d6 13.Qd3 Bg4 14.Rd1 Rae8 15.a4 bxa4 16.Rxa4 Qg6 17.Bf4 Bc5 18.Bg3 Bd7 19.Raa1 Bc6 20.b4 Bxe4 21.Qf1 Bb6 22.Rxd6 Qg4* ½-½ Jones,K (2588)-Zamlutti Junior,R (2629) Chicago op 19th Wheeling 2010 (10)*)* 8...c6 9.Ba4 0-0 10.Bb3 d5 11.h3 dxe4 12.dxe4 Qe7 13.Qf3 Be6 14.Nc4 Nd7 15.Ne3 Bxe3 16.Bxe3 Rfd8 17.Rfd1 a6 18.Bxe6 Qxe6 19.Qg4 Qxg4 20.hxg4 h6 21.a4 Kf8 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2881)-Anand,V (2785) Wch Blitz 8th Dubai 2014 (13)]
7...Bb6 8.0-0N
[Much weaker is 8.Nxe5 Qe7 9.Ng4 Qb4+ 10.c3 Qxb5-+]
[8.Ba4 0-0 9.Bg5 d6 10.Bb3 Be6 11.Qd2 Qe7 12.0-0 h6 13.Bh4 Bg4 14.Rae1 Kh7 15.Kh1 Bxf3 16.gxf3 Qd7 17.Bxf6 Qh3 18.Qe2 gxf6 19.Rg1 f5 20.Rg3 Qh5 21.exf5 Rg8 22.d4 Bxd4 ½-½ Moore,T (2615)-Sahraoui,S (2556) European Championship, Antalya 2004 (3) 23.c3 Bb6 24.f6 Rxg3 25.fxg3 Qg5 26.Qe4+ Kg8 27.Qxb7 Rd8 28.Qd5 Qxf6 29.Kg2 Rc8 30.Qc6 Rd8 31.Re4 Kf8 32.Qd5 Rc8 33.Qc6 Rd8 34.Bc4 Ke7 35.Bd5 h5 36.a4 Rg8 37.Qc4 Qh6 ½-½ Maze,S (2615)-Rambaldi,F (2556) FRA-chT Top 12 Brest 2018 (3)]
8...c6 9.Ba4 d6 10.c3 h6 11.Be3 Bxe3 12.fxe3 0-0 13.Bb3 g6 -0.04/24
[13...Qb6∓ -0.49/21 14.Re1 Bg4]
14.h3= Kg7 15.Rf2 Qe7 16.Qc2
[16.Nd2 seems wilder. Nh7 17.Qe2 Ng5 18.h4]
16...Be6 17.Raf1 Nh7 18.d4 -0.12/21
[⌓18.Bxe6 0.24/19 Qxe6 19.c4]
18...Ng5 19.Nxg5
[Reject 19.dxe5 Bxb3 20.axb3 dxe5∓]
19...hxg5 20.Qd1 -0.09/26
[20.Bxe6 0.28/24 is more appropriate. fxe6 21.b4]
20...Bxb3 The position is equal. **21.Qxb3 f6 22.d5 c5 23.Qd1 Qd7 24.Qg4 Qxg4 25.hxg4** Endgame. KRR-KRR **25...Rf7 26.g3 a6 27.Rh2 Rh8 28.Rxh8 Kxh8 29.a4 b6 30.b4 c4 31.a5 b5 32.Kg2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
½-½

275 **C65**
□ **Vasquez Schroder,Rodrigo Rafael**
■ **Van Foreest,Jorden** **2694**
Santiago de Compostela Bicapawn GP B..
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 Re8 7.Re1 a6 8.Ba4** The position is equal. **8...b5 9.Bb3 d6 10.h3N**
[10.Bg5 Be6 11.Nbd2 h6 12.Bh4 Bxb3 13.axb3 Nb8 14.h3 Nbd7 15.Nh2 Qe7 16.Ndf1 Bb6 17.Ne3

Qe6 18.b4 a5 19.bxa5 Bxa5 20.Nhg4 Bb6 21.Bxf6 Nxf6 22.Nxf6+ Qxf6 23.Qg4 Bxe3 24.fxe3 Qe7 Pressing In Drawn Endings-Anand,V 25.Rf1 c5 26.Kh2 c4 27.d4 Rxa1 28.Rxa1 Qb7 29.Rd1 Qc6 30.Qf5 exd4 31.Rxd4 Re5 32.Qf3 Qc7 33.Kh1 Qe7 34.Qg4 Kh7 35.Qf4 g6 36.Kh2 Kg7 37.Qf3 Re6 38.Qg3 Rxe4 39.Qxd6 Rxe3 0-1 Buchicchio,G (2775)-Molina,R (2870) 32/206 Buenos Aires 1981 (6) 40.Qxe7 Rxe7 41.Rd5 Rb7 42.Rd6 f6 43.h4 Kf7 44.h5 gxh5 45.Rd5 Kg6 46.Kg3 Rb6 47.Rc5 f5 48.Kh4 Re6 49.Rxb5 Re4+ 50.Kh3 Kg5 51.Rb8 h4 52.Rg8+ Kh5 53.Rf8 Rf4 54.Rc8 Rg4 0-1 Dohon,M-Molina,R olm12 corr9298 1992 (6)]

[10.Nbd2 Bb6 11.Nf1 Ne7 12.Ng3 Ng6 13.h3 h6 14.d4 c5 15.dxe5 dxe5 16.Qxd8 Bxd8 17.a4 c4 18.Bc2 Ba5 19.axb5 axb5 20.Be3 Bb7 21.Ra2 Bc7 22.Rea1 Rxa2 23.Rxa2 Ra8 24.Rxa8+ Bxa8 1-0 Anand,V (2781)-Ramirez,A (2519) 36th Olympiad 2004 (2)]

10...Bb6!? A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

11.Nbd2 h6 12.a3 Ne7N

[Predecessor: 12...Be6 13.Bc2 d5 14.Nf1 dxe4 15.dxe4 Qe7 16.b3 -0.59/18 *(16.Be3=* -0.18/18 *)* 16...Rad8 17.Qe2 Na5 18.Rb1 Bc8 0.05/17 0-1 (62) Isaev,F-Kiripov,M (1989) Elista 2008 *(* Black should play *18...Nh5∓* -0.57/20 *)*]

13.Nf1 Ng6 14.Ng3 c5 15.Be3 -0.52/17

[15.a4= -0.12/16]

15...Be6 0.17/19

[15...d5∓ -0.52/17]

16.Bxe6= Rxe6 17.a4 Re8 0.67/19

[17...Rb8= 0.10/19]

18.axb5± axb5 19.Qb3 0.00/19

[19.Rxa8± 0.55/18 Qxa8 20.Qd2]

19...Qd7= 20.Rxa8 Rxa8 21.d4 -0.53/19

[21.c4= 0.01/19]

21...c4 0.01/20

[21...exd4∓ -0.53/19 22.cxd4 c4]

22.Qc2 -0.39/18

[22.Qd1= 0.01/20 deserves consideration. Qb7 23.Qb1]

22...Qb7 0.00/18

[22...exd4!∓ -0.39/18 23.Bxd4 Bxd4 24.Nxd4 Re8]

23.dxe5 -0.61/22

[23.Qd1= 0.00/18]

23...dxe5∓ 24.Bxb6 Qxb6 25.Rd1 Kh7 -0.01/19

[25...Qc6∓ -0.53/20]

26.Qd2 -0.78/21

[26.Nf5= -0.01/19 keeps the balance.]

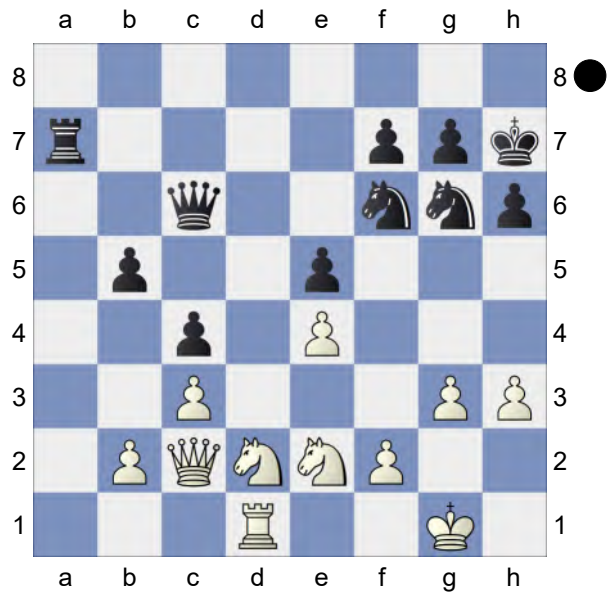
26...Ra2 27.Qc2 Qc5 28.Qb1 Ra7 Black is more active. **29.Ne2 Nh5 30.g3 Nf6 31.Qc2** -1.22/21

[⌓31.Nh2 -0.79/19]

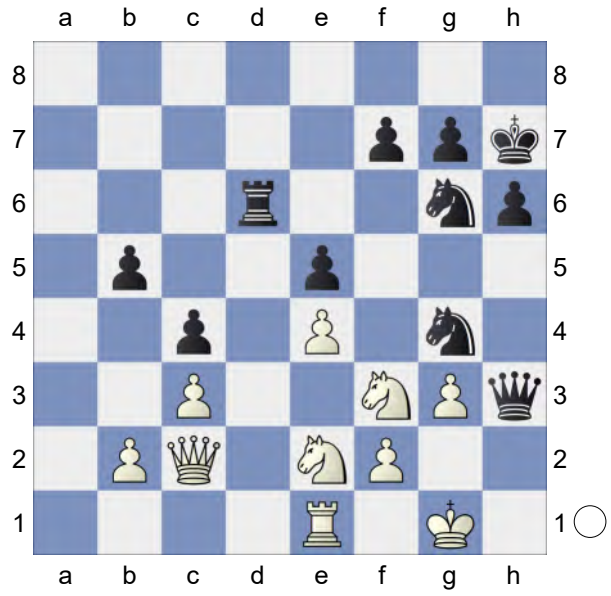
31...Qc6∓ 32.Nd2 -1.76/20

[32.Kf1∓ -1.19/19]

(Diagram)



32...Rd7!-+ 33.Re1 -2.47/22
[33.h4 -1.72/21 was necessary.]
33...Rd6 -1.11/20
[33...Qd6-+ -2.47/22 34.Rd1 h5]
34.Nc1? -3.51/21 White does not recover from this.
[34.Kh2∓ -1.11/20]
34...Qd7! 35.Nf3 Qxh3 36.Ne2 -10.83/20 Prevents Ng6-f4.
[⩲36.Qe2 -4.15/21]
36...Ng4



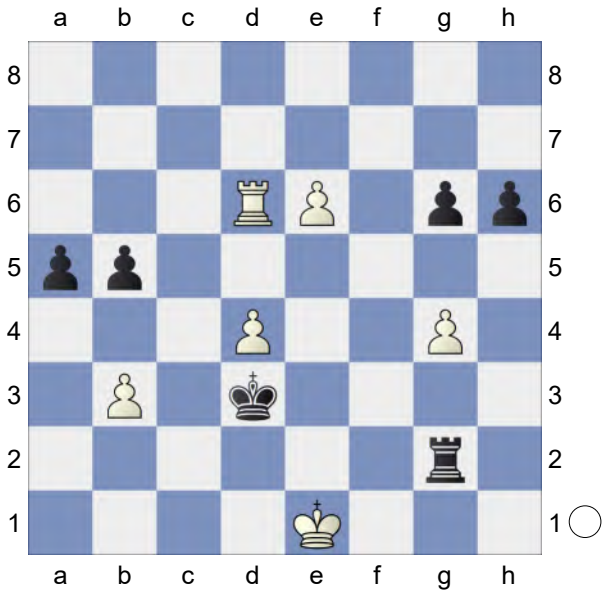
(→ ...Rd6-f6) **37.Rd1 Rf6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/Black=0.20 (precise)
0-1

276 **C67**
□ **Atabayev,Saparmyrat** **2516**
■ **Bernadskiy,Vitaliy** **2531**
Tashkent Al Beruniy-C 2nd (6) 08.02.25
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. 10...Te8 punktet besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Rxe8+ Nxe8 12.c3 d5 13.Bd3 g6 14.Bf4 Ng7 15.Nd2 c6 16.Nf3 Bf5 17.Bxf5 Nxf5** The position is equal. **18.Qd2N**
[18.Qe2 Qe8 19.Re1 Ng7 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Nxe5 Qe6 22.Nd3 Re8 23.Qxe6 Rxe6 24.Rxe6 Nxe6 ½-½ Macovei,A (2476)-Brodsky,D (2538) US Masters op 2024 (7)]
18...Qf8 19.Re1 Re8 20.h3 Rxe1+ 21.Qxe1 Qe7 22.Qxe7N
[22.Kf1 Qxe1+ 23.Nxe1 Be7 24.Ke2 Bd6 25.Bxd6 Nxd6 26.Nd3 f6 27.f3 Kf7 28.g4 ½-½ Choukri,A (2307)-Sentissi,Y (2006) Casablanca Mohammed op 4th 2023 (5)]
22...Bxe7= Endgame KBN-KBN **23.Kf1 Bd6 24.Bxd6 Nxd6** KN-KN **25.Nd2 Kg7 26.Ke2 Kf6 27.Kd3 Ke6 28.b3 b5 29.b4 Ke7 30.Ke3 f6 31.Kd3** An uneventful encounter. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) / Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

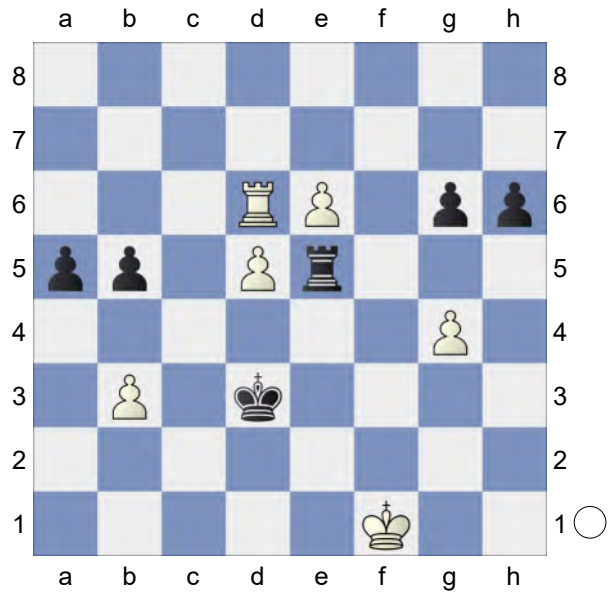
277 **C65**
□ **Quesada Perez,Yasser** **2577**
■ **Ghazarian,Kirk Vagho** **2501**
Saint Louis Masters op (6) 05.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 0-0 6.0-0 Nd4 7.Nxd4 Bxd4 8.Nf3** The position is equal. **8...Bb6 9.Re1!?** Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade. **9...d6 10.c3 c6 11.Ba4 Re8 12.h3 h6 13.Bc2 d5**
[13...Bc7 14.d4 Qe7 15.b3 Be6 16.Ba3 Qd7 17.c4 exd4 18.Nxd4 Rad8 19.Bb2 d5 20.cxd5 cxd5 21.e5 Nh7 22.f4 Bb6 23.g4 Qe7 24.Kg2 Nf8 25.Qd3 Bc8 26.f5 Qg5 27.Nf3 Qf4 28.a3 1-0 4.♘f3 ♘bd7 5.♗g5 c6_393 (2554)-Peel,D (2277) 65/352 Belgrad 1995 (1)]
14.exd5 Qxd5 15.d4N
[15.Qe2 -0.36/19 15.d3-d4 0.01 Bc7 16.Nd2 Be6 17.Ne4 Nxe4 18.dxe4 Qd8 19.Be3 Bb6 20.Red1 Qe7 21.a3 0-1 Movsesian,S (2653)-Fressinet,L (2700) China Elite Mind Basque rapid 2016 (3.7)]
[15.Bb3 Qd6 #9 4) 4.d3: Other Tries-4.d3 Bc5 5.O-O]
15...exd4 16.Rxe8+ Nxe8 17.Qd3 Nf6 Inhibits Qd3-h7+. **18.Nxd4 Bxd4 19.cxd4 Be6 20.Bf4 Qb5 21.Qxb5 cxb5 22.a3 Nd5 23.Bd2 Rd8 24.Be4 b6 25.Bf3 Ne7 26.Bb4 Nd5** and ...Nd5xb4 would now be decisive **27.Bd2 Ne7 28.Be3 Bd5 29.Bd1 Nf5 30.Bc2 Be6 31.Rd1 Kf8 32.g4 Nxe3 33.fxe3=** Endgame KRB-KRB **33...Ke7 34.Kf2 a5** 0.80/20
[34...Rh8± 0.37/19]
35.Bd3± Bc4 36.Be2 Bxe2 37.Kxe2± KR-KR **37...Rc8** Prevents Rd1-c1. **38.Kd2** Repels Rc8-c2+ **38...Ke6** 1.13/23
[38...h5± 0.61/20]
39.Rf1!± g6 Prevents Rf1-f5 **40.e4** 0.66/23
[40.Kd3± 1.06/22]
40...Rc4!± 41.Kd3 Ra4! 42.h4 b4 43.axb4 Rxb4 44.Kc3 Ra4 45.h5 b5 2.31/23
[45...gxh5± 0.86/23 46.gxh5 Rb4]
46.b3!+- Ra2 47.hxg6 0.67/21
[47.d5++- 2.66/21 Ke7 48.hxg6 fxg6 49.Kd4]
47...fxg6± 48.e5 0.01/24
[48.Rf8± 0.79/20]
48...Kd5? 1.61/20
[48...Rg2= 0.01/24]
49.Rf6? 0.01/26
[49.Rf8!+- 1.61/20]
49...Rg2 50.Rd6+ Ke4 51.e6 Rg3+ 52.Kd2 Rg2+ 53.Ke1 Kd3? 2.50/21
[53...Ke3!± 0.31/21 54.Kf1 Rf2+ 55.Kg1 Kf3]



54.d5? 0.15/21
[Better is 54.g5!+- 2.50/21 hxg5 *(54...Rxg5? 55.e7+-; 54...Re2+*

55.Kf1±) 55.d5]
54...Re2+!=
[54...Rxg4? too greedy. 55.Rc6 Re4+ 56.Kf2+-]
55.Kf1 Re5!

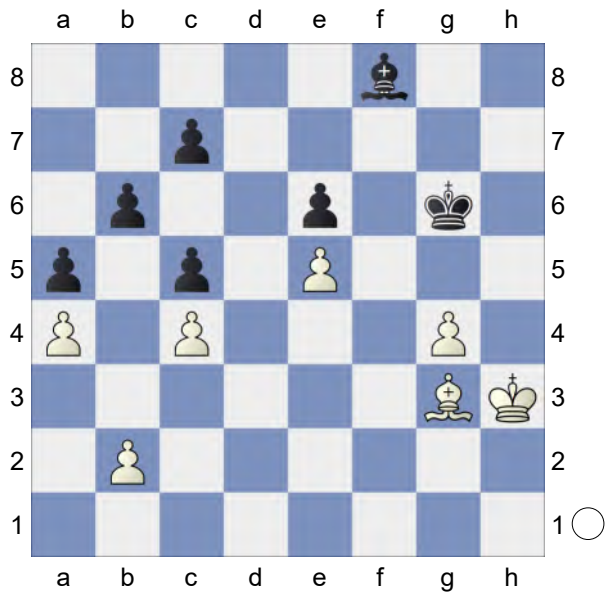


56.Rd7! Hoping for Rd7-e7. **56...Kc3?** 3.17/22
[56...g5!= 0.13/21 and Black has nothing to worry.]
57.e7? 0.01/20
[57.g5+- 3.17/22 Rf5+ 58.Ke2 Rxg5 59.e7 Re5+ 60.Kd1]
57...Kxb3? 11.90/20
[57...g5= 0.01/20]
58.d6+- a4 59.Rd8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/Black=0.42
1-0

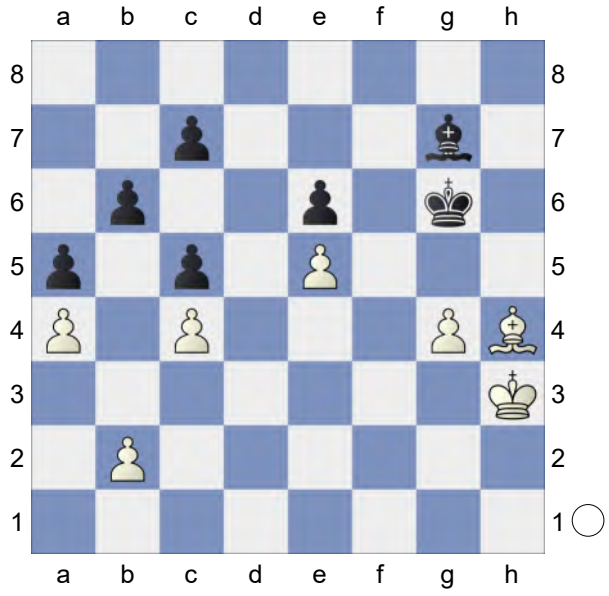
278 **C67**
□ **Brkic,Ante** **2642**
■ **Kovacevic,Aleksandar** **2479**
BIH-chT 22nd (2.1) 02.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Ke8 10.Nc3 h5 11.Bf4 Be7 12.Rad1 Nh4** And now ...Nxf3+ would win. The position is equal. **13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.Ne4!?** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **14...Be7 15.Rfe1 Be6N**
[15...Bf5 16.Nd6+ cxd6 17.exd6 Be6 18.dxe7 Kxe7 19.Rd3 Kf8 20.a4 Kg8 21.Re5 Re8 22.Rd6 a6 23.a5 g6 24.f3 Kh7 25.g4 Rd8 26.Rxd8 Rxd8 27.gxh5 Bxh3 28.Re7 Rd7 29.hxg6+ Kxg6 30.Rxd7 Saric,I (2668)-Tari,A (2656) Czech Republic 2023 ½-½ (31)]
16.Ng5 Rd8N 0.50/38
[Vorgänger: 16...Bf5 17.e6 Bxg5 18.Bxg5 Threatens to win with Rd7. Bxe6 19.Re5 Kf8 20.Bd8 Rh6 21.Bxc7 Bd5 22.b3 Rc8 23.Ba5 Rg6! 24.g3 Kg8 25.Rde1 Re6 26.c4 Rce8 27.Bc3 ½-½ Schroeder,J (2544)-Kryvoruchko,Y (2658) Bundesliga 2223 2022 (8.7)]
[16...Bf5= 0.03/25 is superior.]
17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Rxd8+ Bxd8± Endgame KRB-KRB **19.g4 hxg4** 0.82/31
[19...c5± 0.43/29 was preferrable.]
20.hxg4± Be7 21.Rd1 Bc5 22.Kg2 Be7 23.Be3 a5 24.a4 b6 1.57/34
[⌓24...c5 0.86/35]
25.Rh1! Rxh1 26.Kxh1 KB-KB **26...g6 27.Kg2 c5 28.c4 g5?** 4.23/29
[28...Bd8 1.75/30 29.f4 Kf7]
29.f4+- gxf4 30.Bxf4 Kf7 31.Kh3 Kg6 32.Bg3! Bf8? 6.36/23
[32...Bg5 3.32/24 33.Bh4 Bf4]

(Diagram)



33.Bh4! Bg7



34.Bf6

[Inferior is 34.Bg3 Kh7=]

34...Bxf6 35.exf6 Kxf6 KP-KP **36.Kg3** aiming for Kf4. **36...Kg5 37.Kf3 e5 38.b3** White mates. **38...Kh4 39.Ke4 Kxg4 40.Kxe5 Kf3 41.Kd5 Ke3 42.Kc6 Kd4 43.Kxc7 Kc3 44.Kxb6 Kb4 45.Kc6 Kxb3 46.Kxc5?** 0.00/53 Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.45. Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?

[46.Kb5 #18/57 mates Kc3 47.Kxc5 Kb3 48.Kb5 Kb2 49.c5 Kc2 50.c6 Kd3 51.c7]

1-0

279 **C00**

□ **Tsaruk,Maksim** **2450**

■ **Martirosyan,Haik M** **2676**

RUS-chT Blitz (8.2) 17.10.2024

[Kitty Kat]

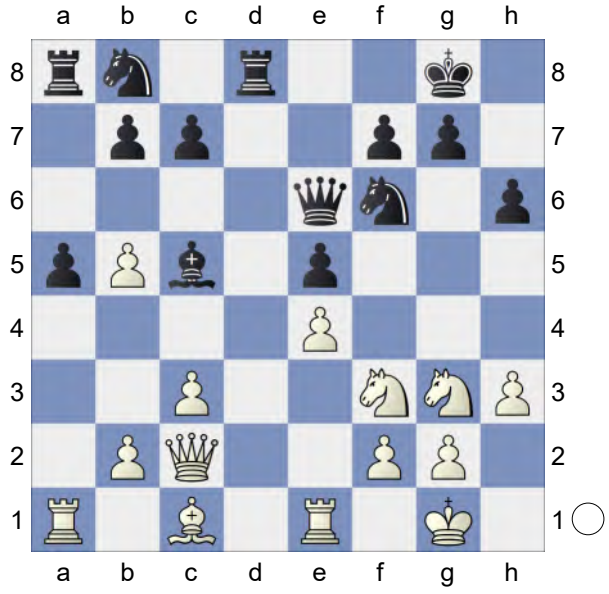
C00: French: Unusual White 2nd moves **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 dxe4 8.dxe4 Qe7 9.h3 a5 10.a4 Rd8!?** A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante. **11.Qc2** The position is equal. **11...Nb8 12.Re1**

[12.Be2 Nbd7 13.Re1 Nf8 14.Nb3 Bb6 15.Nfd2 Be6 16.Nc4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Ne6 18.g3 h5 19.Kg2 h4 20.Qe2 g6 21.Nd2 Nc5 22.Nf3 hxg3 23.fxg3 Ncxe4 24.Ng5 Nd6 25.Ba2 Re8 26.h4 Kg7 Firouzja,A (2785)-Ding,L (2788) Bucuresti 157/122 2023 157 Games Section [Perunovic,Milos] 1-0 (52)]

12...Bd7N

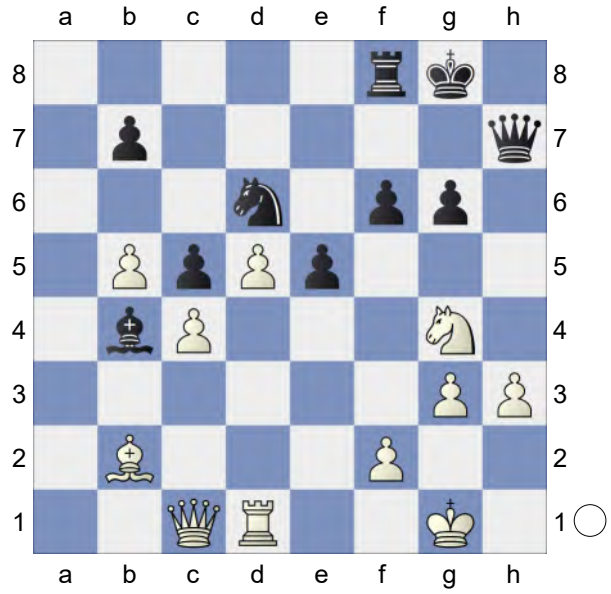
[12...h6 13.Nf1 c6 14.Bc4 Re8 15.Ng3 -0.13/22 *(15.Be3* 0.25/21 was preferrable.*)* 15...Qc7 0.22/24 *(⌓15...Be6!* -0.13/22 *16.Bxe6 Qxe6)* 16.Nh4 Be6 17.Bxe6 Rxe6 18.Nhf5 Na6 0-1 Saric,I (2647)-Dominguez Perez,L (2745) AI Cup Div 2 W rapid 2023 (1.2) 19.Qe2 Rd8 20.Qf3 Bf8 21.h4 Nc5 22.Be3 b5 23.Bxc5 Bxc5 24.Red1 Rxd1+ 25.Rxd1 bxa4 26.Rd2 a3 27.bxa3 Bxa3 28.Qd1 Bf8 29.Ne3 Rd6 30.Nc4 Rxd2 31.Qxd2 a4 32.Qa2 a3 33.f3 Nd7 Modestov,B (2647)-Marosi,G (2745)

Chisinau (MDA) 2023 The Week in Chess 273 [John Watson] 0-1 (43)]
[12...Nbd7 13.Bf1 *(13.Nh4 g6 14.Nb3 Bb6 15.Bg5 Nf8 16.Nf3 Ne6 17.Bh6 c6 18.Bc4 Bc7 19.Nc1 Ne8 20.Nd3 f6 21.Rad1 Kh8 22.Ba2 N6g7 23.Nd2 Be6 24.Bxe6 Nxe6 25.Be3 Nd6 26.b4 Kg7 27.bxa5* 1-0 Bruzon Batista,L (2610)-Andersson,U (2594) La 87/146 Havana 2003*)* 13...b6 14.Nc4 Ba6 15.Bg5 h6 16.Bh4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Nf8 18.Bg3 Ng6 19.Nh4 Nxh4 20.Bxh4 Rd7 ½-½ (20) Uyanga,B (2695)-Kaiser,W (2747) Paris 2015 CBM 056 Extra [Michalczak]]
13.Nf1 h6 14.Ng3 Bxb5 15.axb5 Threatens to win with b4! **15...Qe6** 1.22/22
[15...Qe8= 0.00/26]
[15...Nbd7= -0.01/19]



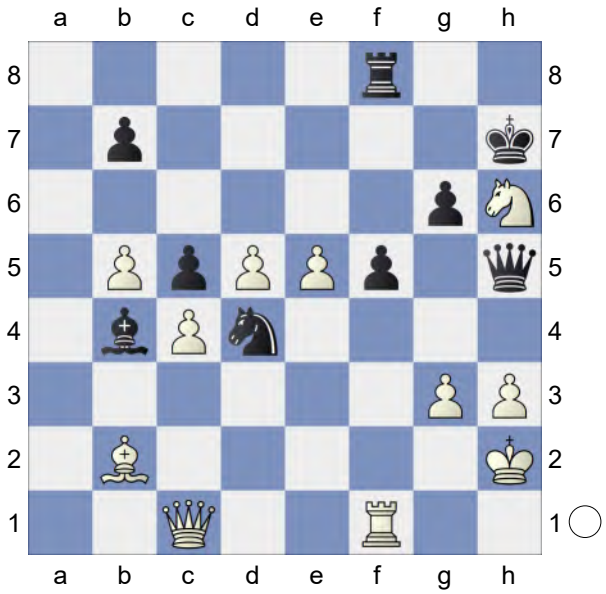
16.b4!± Bb6 17.c4! c5 is the strong threat. **17...c5 18.bxa5 Bxa5** 2.23/23
[18...Rxa5± 1.14/23 19.Bb2 *(19.Bd2 Rxa1 20.Rxa1 Nbd7)* 19...Nbd7]
19.Bb2 0.98/22
[19.Re3!+- 2.23/23]
19...Nbd7 20.Red1 Bc7 21.Nf5 Nb6 22.Ne3
[22.Rxd8+ simplifies Rxd8 23.Ne3 Ne8 24.Nd2]
22...Nh5 1.82/24
[22...Rxd1+± 0.81/22 23.Rxd1 Qe8 *(23...Ra2)*]
23.Nd5 Rxa1 24.Rxa1 Nxd5 1.95/20
[Black should play 24...Bb8± 1.26/24 25.Nh4 Nf4]
25.exd5+-
[25.cxd5?! Qb6± *(25...Qg6±)*]
25...Qe7 2.33/21
[⌓25...Qf6 1.85/22 26.Ra7 Rb8]
26.Re1 f6 2.42/18
[⌓26...Re8 1.98/20 27.b6 *(27.Bxe5 Nf6+-; 27.Nxe5 Qg5±)* 27...Bd6 28.Bxe5 Nf6]
27.Qf5 1.36/24 Black is weak on the light squares
[Better is 27.Nh4+- 2.76/22 is more deadly.]
27...Qf7± 28.g3 Against Nf4 Against Nh5-f4 **28...g6 29.Qd3 Ng7 30.Qe3** 0.66/22
[⌓30.g4± 1.40/22]
30...Ba5 1.72/21
[30...Nf5± 0.66/22 31.Qxc5 Bd6]
31.Rd1↑ Black is under strong pressure. White is on the roll.
[31.Qxh6 Bxe1 32.Nxe1 Nf5∓]
31...Bb4 32.Qxh6 aiming for g4.
32...Nf5 Repels Nf3-h4 **33.Qc1 Nd6** 2.04/19
[33...Re8± 1.51/23 was called for. 34.Nh2 *(34.Qc2 e4)* 34...Nd4]
34.Nh2!+- And now f4 would win.
34...Rf8 2.38/19
[⌓34...Qh7± 1.84/23]
35.Ng4 Ng4-h6+ is the strong threat.
35...Qh7 3.54/19
[⌓35...Qe7 2.48/22 is a better defense. 36.Kg2 *(36.Rd3 Ba5)*

36...Kf7]

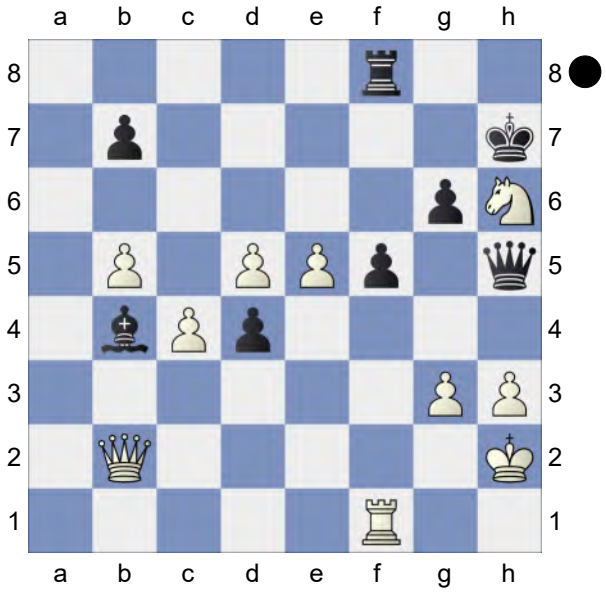


36.Kh2? 0.94/24
[36.Nxf6+!+- 3.54/19 is the precise move to win. Rxf6 37.Bxe5]
36...Qh5 1.83/24
[36...g5± 0.94/24 keeps fighting.]
37.Rf1 1.14/23
[37.Kg2+- 1.83/24]
[37.Qc2+- 1.75/21]
37...Nf5? 3.59/21
[37...g5± 1.14/23 38.Qe3 Qg6]
38.f4 1.97/22
[⌓38.d6 3.59/21]
38...Nd4? 4.80/20
[38...Kg7 1.97/22 might work better. 39.Kg2 *(39.fxe5 Rh8±)* 39...Rh8]
39.fxe5 f5 40.Nh6+ 0.00/35
[Less strong is 40.Nf6+ Rxf6 41.Bxd4 *(41.exf6 Qe2+ 42.Kg1 Bd2=)* 41...cxd4 42.exf6 Qe2+ 43.Kh1 Qe4+ 44.Kg1 d3±]
[40.Qh6+- 4.61/20]
[40.Qf4+- 5.51/19]
40...Kh7

(Diagram)



Strongly threatening ...Qe2+. **41.Bxd4?** -1.92/23
[41.g4!= 0.07/24 and White is okay. Qxh6 42.Qxh6+ Kxh6 43.e6]
41...cxd4-+ 42.Qb2 -2.25/22
[42.Qd1∓ -1.82/23 is a better defense. Qxd1 *(42...Qxh6 43.Qxd4 Ra8 44.Rg1=)* 43.Rxd1]



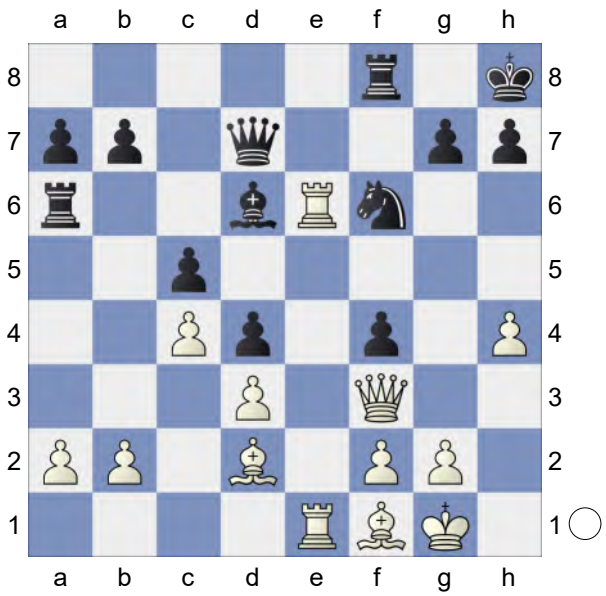
Inhibits Qe2+. [#] Inhibits Qh5-e2+.
42...Bc3!-+ Black has strong compensation. **43.Qe2** -#7/24
[Reject 43.Qa3-+ -1.69/18 Qxh6

(43...Qe2+ 44.Kg1∓) 44.Kg2 *(44.Qe7+ Qg7∓)* 44...Re8]
[43.Qg2-+ -2.24/22 Kxh6 44.d6]
43...Qxe2+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.72/Black=0.47 Weighted Error Value: White=0.64/Black=0.39
0-1

280 **C67**
□ **Kevlishvili,Robby** **2556**
■ **Can,Isik** **2499**
Wch Blitz New York (6) 30.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.Nc3 Ne8 10.Nd5** Black is weak on the light squares **10...Bd6 11.Re1** The position is equal. **11...c6 12.Ne3 Bc7 13.Nf5 d5 14.Ne7+ Kh8 15.Nxc8 Rxc8 16.Qf3**
[16.g3 Nd6 17.Bh3 f5 18.d3 Qf6 19.c3 Rce8 20.Bd2 Nf7 21.Rxe8 Rxe8 22.Qf1 f4 23.Re1 Rf8 24.Qe2 h6 25.Kh1 Ng5 26.Bg4 Bd6 27.h4 Nh7 28.Kg2 Qg6 29.Bh5 Qf5 30.Bg4 Qg6 ½-½ Nakamura,H (2772)-Carlsen,M (2862) Sinquefield Cup 1st 2013 (5)]
16...f5 17.d3 Nf6N
[17...Qf6 18.Rb1 Nd6 19.b4 Rce8 20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.Bb2 d4 22.g3 a5 23.bxa5 Bxa5 24.a4 c5 25.h4 h6 26.Bh3 g6 27.Rf1 Kg7 28.Bc1 g5 29.Bg2 Kg6 30.Qd5 b6 31.Bf3 Nf7 32.Qd7 0-1 Ferri,S (2726)-Lazarevic,M (2625) 2001 (2.1)]
[17...Qd7 18.Bf4 Nf6 19.Bxc7 Qxc7 20.Re6 g6 21.Rae1 Rfe8 22.Rxe8+ Nxe8 23.Qe3 a6 24.c4 Nf6 25.Qd4 Kg7 26.Re6 Qf7 27.cxd5 Rd8 28.Qe3 Nxd5 29.Qe5+ Kh6 30.g3 Rd7 31.Bg2 Nc7 32.Rf6 0-1 4.d4 ♘f6 5. ♗c4 (2736)-Panov Botvinnik Attack (2793) FIDE GP Moscow rapid 2002 (1.16)]
18.h3!? An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante.
[18.Qxf5 Ne4 19.Qh5 g6∓ *(19...Nxf2 20.Be3∓)*]
18...f4N
[18...d4 19.Bf4 Nd5 20.Be5 Qd7 21.g3 f4 22.g4 Rce8 23.Bxc7 Qxc7 24.Re4 Rxe4 25.dxe4 ½-½ Jasinski,M (2449)-Bars,J (2414) Champion's League 2021/B3 email]
19.Bd2
[19.Bxf4 Ne4 20.dxe4 Rxf4∓]
19...c5 0.92/18
[19...Qd6± 0.35/17]
20.Re2± Qd7 21.Rae1
[21.Bxf4? Ng8 *(21...Ne8 22.g3±)* 22.g3 g5-+]
21...Bd6 22.c4
[22.Bxf4 Ng8 23.Re5 *(23.Qxd5? Rxf4 24.g3 Rff8-+; 23.g3 g5-+)* 23...g5∓]
22...d4! 23.Re6
[23.Bxf4 Ng8 24.g3 *(24.Re4? g5-+)* 24...g5-+]
23...Rc6 1.45/19
[Better is 23...Rce8± 0.63/21 24.Rxe8 Nxe8]
24.h4 0.68/20 White is more active.
[24.Bxf4± 1.45/19 Ng8 *(24...Bxf4? 25.Rxc6±)* 25.g3 *(25.R6e4 Rb6±)* 25...Bxf4 26.Rxc6 bxc6 *(26...Bd6? 27.Rxd6 Qxd6 28.Qxb7+-)* 27.gxf4]
24...Ra6 1.40/20
[24...Rb6± 0.68/20]

(Diagram)

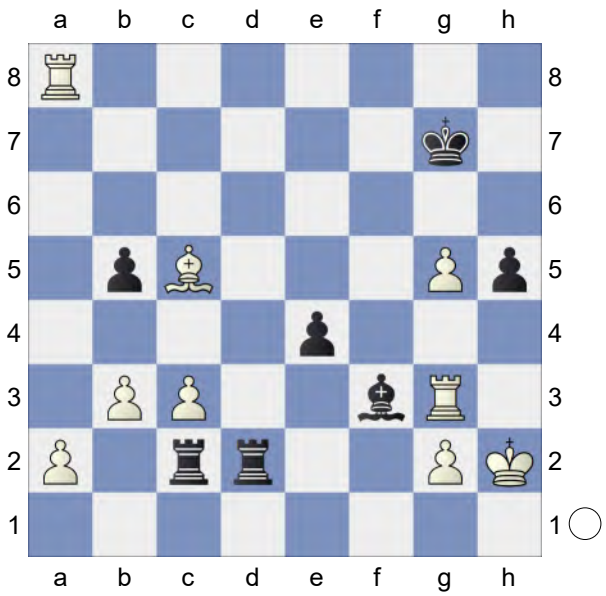


25.a3!
[25.Bxf4 Bxf4 26.Rxa6 Bh2+ 27.Kxh2 *(27.Kh1 bxa6 28.g3 a5=)* 27...Ng4+ 28.Kg3 Qc7+ *(28...Rxf3+ 29.gxf3∓)* 29.Kxg4 h5+ 30.Kg5 Rxf3 31.gxf3 bxa6=]
25...Qf7? 2.85/22 Loses the game.
[25...h5± 0.87/19]
26.b4 cxb4 2.47/21
[26...Qd7 1.90/20 27.bxc5 *(27.Bxf4 Bxf4 28.Rxa6 Bh2+ 29.Kh1 bxa6=)* 27...Bxc5 28.Rxa6 bxa6 29.Bxf4 Bxa3]
27.axb4+- b4-b5! is the strong threat.
[27.Bxf4 Bxf4 28.Re7 Qh5 29.Qxf4 bxa3]
27...Ra2 3.58/21
[27...Qd7 2.16/20 keeps fighting. 28.b5 *(28.Bxf4 Bxf4 29.Rxa6 Bh2+ 30.Kh1 bxa6=; 28.c5 Bc7+-)* 28...Ra2]
28.Rxd6
[28.Bxf4 Bxb4 29.R1e2 Rxe2 30.Rxe2 *(30.Qxe2 a5=)* 30...Nd5± *(30...Nh5 31.Be5±)*]
28...Rxd2 29.Rxd4
[29.Qxf4 Rc2 30.g3 *(30.Qxd4 Kg8+-; 30.Rxd4 h6+-)* 30...h6+-]
29...Ng8 30.Rde4 Rb2 31.b5 Qf6 32.Re8 h6 33.Rxf8 Qxf8 34.Qxb7 Qc5 35.Qf3 Qd4 36.Re8 Rb1 37.Qa8 Qxd3 38.Rxg8+ Kh7 39.Rh8+ 19.88/5
[⌓39.Kh2 #8/20 Qf5 40.Rh8+ Kg6 41.Qc6+ *(41.Qe8+ Qf7 42.Bd3+ Kf6 43.Qc6+ Ke5 44.Rd8 Rh1+ 45.Kxh1 Qe6 46.Qc7+* Skewer, Double Attack *Kf6 47.Rf8+* Skewer *Qf7 48.Qd6#)* 41...Kh5 42.Be2+ f3 43.Bxf3+ *(43.Qxf3+ Qxf3 44.Bxf3+ Kxh4+-)* 43...Qxf3 44.Qxf3+ *(44.gxf3 Re1 45.Qc5+ Kg6 46.Qd6+ Kh5 47.Qg3 Rg1 48.Kxg1 g6 49.Qg5#)* 44...Kxh4 45.Qf5 *(45.Rg8 Rh1+ 46.Kxh1 a5 47.g3+ Kh3 48.Qh5#)* 45...Rh1+ 46.Kxh1 g5 47.Rxh6#]
39...Kg6 40.Qe8+ Kf5 41.Rf8+ Kg4 42.Qe6+ 14.95/5
[⌓42.Kh2 #7/16 Rxf1 43.Qe6+ Kh5 44.Rxf4 Rh1+ Decoy 45.Kxh1 Qf1+ 46.Kh2 Qd1 47.Qf5+ g5 48.Qf7#]
42...Kh5 43.Qf5+ 8.60/22 Weighted Error Value: White=0.30/Black=0.78
[⌓43.Kh2 #8/18 Re1 44.Rf5+ *(44.Qxe1 Qd6 45.Qe8+ Kxh4 46.Be2 f3+ 47.g3+ Kg5 48.Qe3+ Kg6 49.Qe4+ Kh5 50.Bxf3+ Kg5 51.Qg4#)* 44...g5 45.Qf7+ *(45.Qxe1 Qxf5 46.Qe8+ Kg4+-)* 45...Kg4 46.Bxd3 Kxh4 47.Qg6 *(47.Qxa7 Rd1 48.Qg7 Rh1+ 49.Kxh1 Kh5 50.Be2+ f3 51.Bxf3+ Kh4 52.Qxh6#; 47.g3+ fxg3+ 48.fxg3+ Kg4)* 47...Re6 48.Rxf4+ Remove Defender *(48.Qxe6 h5 49.Qg6 Kg4 50.Qxg5#)* 48...gxf4 49.g3+ fxg3+ 50.fxg3#]
1-0

281 **C65**
□ **Amonatov,Farrukh** **2615**
■ **Navara,David** **2740**
43rd Olympiad 2018 Open (2.1) 25.09.18
[TA]

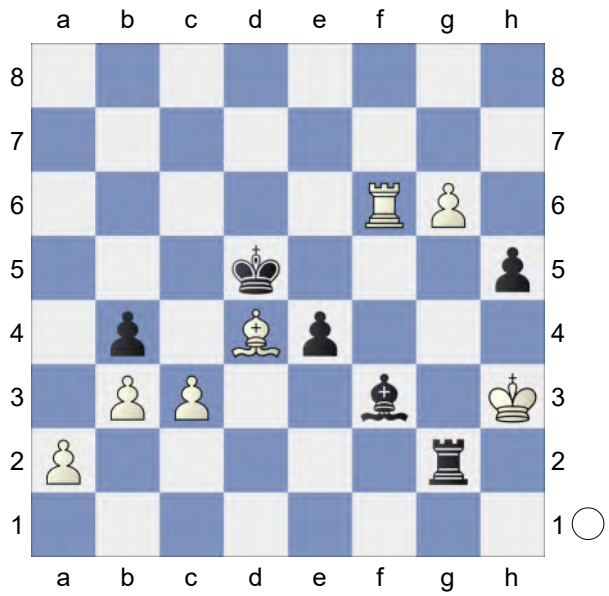
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **6...Be6 7.Qe2 Bd6** LiveBook: 6 Games **8.b3** The position is equal. **8...0-0 9.Bb2 Nd7 10.0-0 Qf6N**
[Predecessor: 10...Qe7 11.a4 b6 12.d4 f6 13.h3 Kh8 1-0 (58) Kokarev, D (2608)-Rodshtein,M (2678) Linares 2018]
11.Rfe1 c5 12.h3 Nb8 13.c3 Qg6 14.Kh1 Nc6 15.Nc4 Qh5 16.Kg1 Rae8 17.Rad1 f5 18.exf5 Bxf5 19.Nd4 Qxe2 20.Nxe2 b5 21.Ne3 e4 22.d4 cxd4 23.Nxd4 Nxd4 24.Rxd4 Bc5 25.Rd5 Bxe3! 26.Rxe3 c6 27.Rc5 Rd8 White must now prevent ... Rd2. **28.Rxc6 Rd1+ 29.Kh2 Bd7 30.Rc7** Re2 is the strong threat. **30...Rxf2 31.Ba3 h5** Hoping for ... Rdd2. **32.Bc5↑** White is pushing. **32...Rc2 33.h4 Rdd2**
[33...Rxa2?! 34.Bd4±]
34.Rg3 Bg4
[Of course not 34...Rxa2?! 35.Bxa7 Bg4 36.Bd4±]
35.Rxa7 g5
[35...Rd3= 36.Bd4 b4]
36.hxg5 aiming for Bd4. **36...Bf3 37.Ra8+ Kg7**
[⌓37...Kf7]

(Diagram)



38.Ra7+?
[And not 38.Bd4+ Rxd4 39.Ra7+ *(39.cxd4 h4=)* 39...Kg8=]
[Only move: 38.Kh3!± Strongly threatening Bd4+. Bg4+ 39.Kh4 Rxa2 40.Bd4+ Kf7 41.Rb8]
38...Kg6
[Better is 38...Kg8!=]
39.Ra6+± Kf5?
[39...Kg7!±]
40.Rf6++- White is clearly winning.
40...Ke5 41.Bd4+ Kd5 42.g6 Rxg2+ 43.Rxg2 Rxg2+ Endgame KRB-KRB
44.Kh3 b4
[⌓44...Rg5 45.Rb6 Rg4 46.Rxb5+ Kd6]

(Diagram)

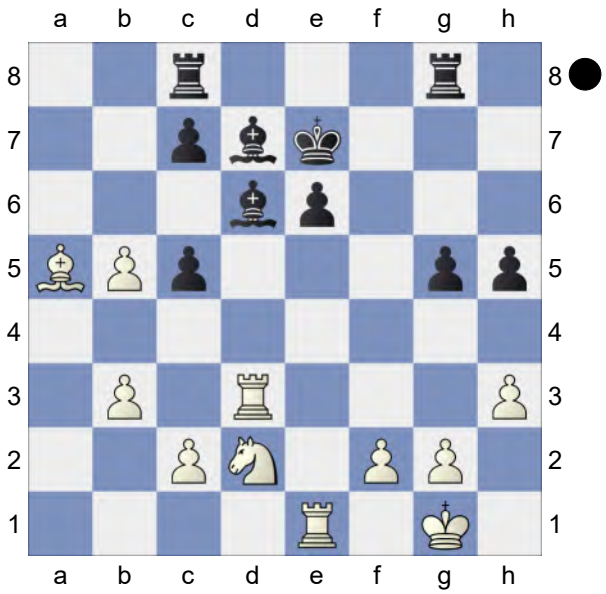


45.g7! bxc3 46.Bxc3 Rxg7 47.Rf5+ Ke6 48.Rxf3! KRB-KR **48...Rd7 49.Rf6+ Ke7 50.Rg6** Threatens to win with Rg7+. **50...Rd3+ 51.Rg3 e3 52.Be1 Ke6 53.Kg2 h4 54.Rh3 Kd5** Precision: White = 65%, Black = 49%. **1-0**

282 **C67**
□ **Sasikiran,K.** **2660**
■ **Kobalia,M.** **2608**
35th ECC Open 2019 (7.2) 16.11.2019
[Kitty Kat]

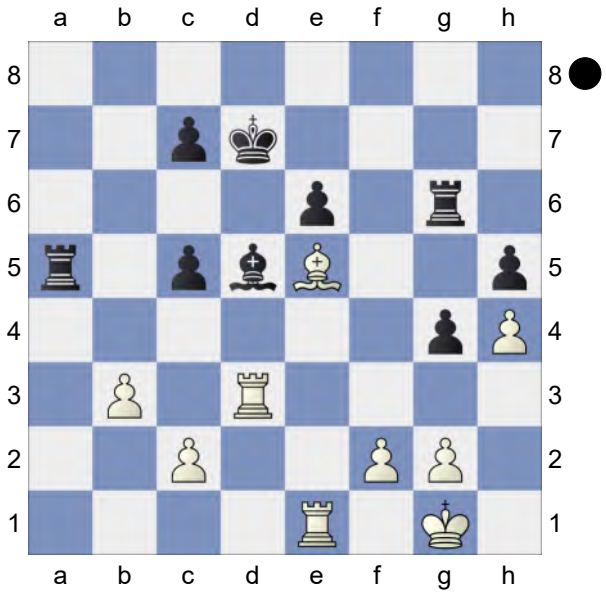
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.h3 h5 11.Rd1 Be7 12.a4**
[12.Ne2 Nh4 13.Nxh4 Bxh4 14.f3 Bf5 15.Nd4 Bg6 16.Bf4 Be7 17.g4 Rd8 18.Kg2 hxg4 19.hxg4 Bc5 20.c3 Bxd4 21.Rxd4 Rxd4 22.cxd4 Ke7 23.Rc1 Ke6 24.Be3 f6 25.exf6 gxf6 26.Bd2 Rd8 ½-½ Anand,V (2816)-Carlsen,M (2853) Sinquefield Cup 3rd 2015 (9)]

12...a5 The position is equal. **13.Ne2 Bd7N**
[13...b6 14.Bf4 Be6 15.Ned4 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 c5 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.g4 Rd8 19.Rxd8+ Bxd8 20.Rd1 Be7 21.c4 Rf8 22.Be3 hxg4 23.hxg4 g5 24.Kg2 Rh8 25.b3 Rh7 26.Rd3 Bd8 27.f4 gxf4 28.Bxf4 1-0 Sasikiran,K (2604)-Yuan,Q (2380) Aimchess Play In op rapid 2023 (8)]
14.Bf4 Rc8 15.b3 Be6 16.Ned4 Nxd4 17.Nxd4 Bd7 18.Rd3 g5 0.61/23
[18...c5= 0.07/23 19.e6 cxd4 20.exd7+ Kxd7]
19.Bd2!± White is more active. **19...c5! 20.e6! fxe6 21.Nf3 Rg8 22.Bxa5 Bd6** Against Ne5 **23.Nd2 Ke7 24.Re1 b5 25.axb5**



Bxb5 26.Rde3 Rg6 27.Ne4 Bc6 28.Bd2! g4 29.h4 Bd5 1.22/22
[29...Bxe4± 0.38/21 30.Rxe4 Kd7]
30.Ng3± Kd7 2.23/23
[30...Rh8± 1.10/21]
31.Bc3 0.86/23
[31.Nxh5 Rh8 32.Re5 Bxe5 33.Rxe5 c4±]
[31.Rd3+- 2.23/23 and White stays clearly on top.]

Loses the game. **31...Bxg3** 2.28/25
[31...Rf8± 0.86/23]
32.Rxg3+-
[32.fxg3 Ra8 33.Be5 Rgg8±]
32...Ra8 2.62/22
[⌓32...Rf8 1.86/24 33.Be5 Rf5]
33.Be5 Ra2? 3.96/25
[33...Kc8 2.36/23 was called for. 34.Rd3 Ra5]
34.Rc3 2.13/24
[⌓34.c4 3.96/25]
34...Ra5? 3.99/25
[34...c4 2.13/24 35.bxc4 Bc6]
35.Rd3



aiming for c4. **35...Kc8 36.c4 Bc6 37.Bg3 Rh6 38.Kh2 Kb7 39.Re5 Rh7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.42 **40.Rde3**
[Not 40.Rxe6 Ra1 41.Rde3 Rb1+- *(41...Rh8? 42.Be5+-)*]
1-0

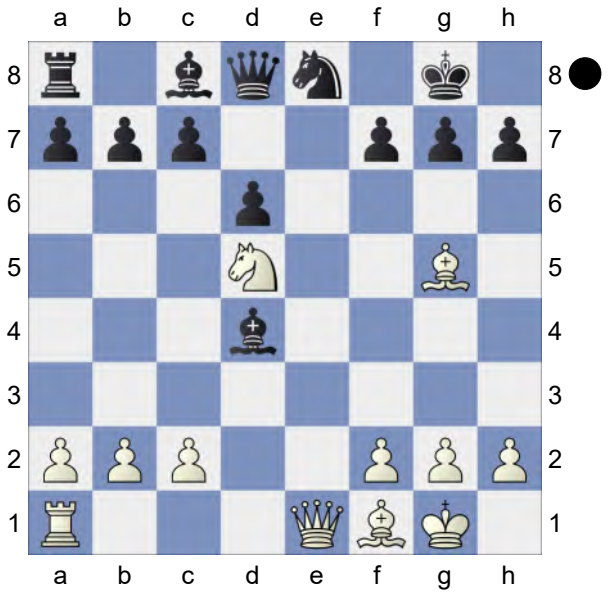
283 **C67**
□ **Muzychuk,Mariya** **2490**
■ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2548**
Nikosia WGP 2025 (9.5) 24.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Ne8 10.Nd5 Bd6 11.Re1 c6**
[Don't play 11...Qh4 12.g3 Qd8 13.Ne3±]
12.Ne3 Be7
[Don't do 12...Qh4 13.g3 Qf6 14.d4±]
13.c4 Nc7 14.d4 d5 15.cxd5 Bb4 16.Bd2 Bxd2 17.Qxd2 Nxd5 18.Nxd5 Qxd5 19.Re5 Qd6 20.Bc4 Bd7 21.a3N
[21.Rae1 b5 22.Bb3 a5 23.a3 *(23.a4 bxa4 24.Bxa4 Be6 25.Rxa5 Rxa5 26.Qxa5 Qxd4 27.Bxc6 Qxb2 28.Bd5 Bxd5 29.Qxd5 Qf6 30.g3 g6* ½-½ (30) Svidler,P (2757)-Topalov,V (2780) Moscow 2016 CBM 172 [ChessBase]*)* 23...a4 24.Ba2 Rae8 25.Qc3 g6 26.h3 Kg7 27.Qe3 h5 5 Chapter-Games Game]
21...Rae8 22.Qe3 0.06/22
[22.Qc3± 0.37/20]
22...b6
[22...b5!? 23.Ba2 c5=]
23.h3 Rxe5 0.65/25
[23...b5 0.33/22 is more appropriate. 24.Ba2 a5]
24.dxe5±
[But not 24.Qxe5 Qg6=]
24...Qe7 25.Rd1 Be6 26.Bxe6 &Bianco is more active. **26...Qxe6±** Endgame KQR-KQR **27.Rd6 Qc4 28.Qc3** 0.16/24
[28.b3± 1.00/23 Qc2 29.Rd7]

28...Qxc3= 29.bxc3 KR-KR **29...Re8 30.Rxc6** 0.07/24
[30.f4± 0.52/24 might be stronger.]
30...g5! The position is equal. **31.Rc7 Rxe5 32.Rxa7 Rc5 33.Rb7 Rxc3 34.Rxb6 Rxa3 35.g3 Kg7 36.Kg2 h6 37.g4 Rd3 38.Ra6 Rc3 39.Rb6 Ra3 40.Rc6 Rb3 41.Ra6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.09 (flawless) /Black=0.03 (flawless)
½-½

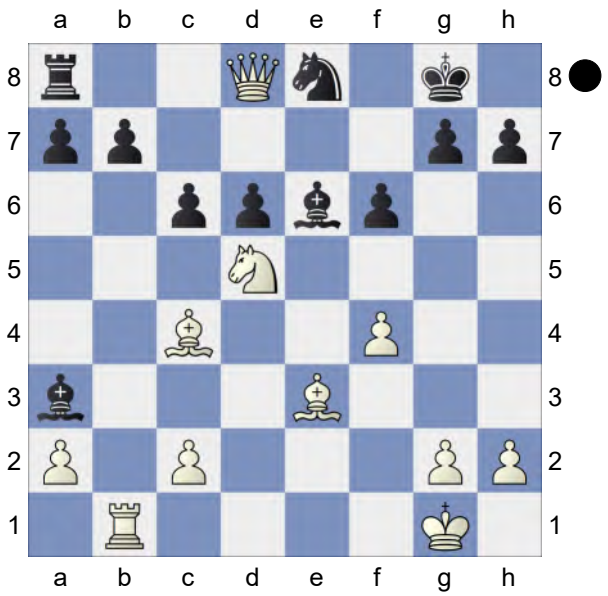
284 **C67**
□ **Muzychuk,Anna** **2520**
■ **Goryachkina,A..** **2553**
E Women's Candidates (9.4) 14.04.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Nc3 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Bxd4 13.Bf4** Nd5 is the strong threat. **13...Ne8! 14.Nd5 d6 15.Bg5**



Deflection, Back Rank **15...f6! 16.Be3**
[16.Bc4 with more complications. Kh8 17.Qe4 fxg5 18.Bd3]
[16.Bh4 Bxb2 *(16...g5 17.Qe4 Bxb2 18.Re1 Be5 19.f4 gxh4 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.Bd3 Kf8 22.Ne3 Qd4 23.Qxh7 Be6 24.Bg6 Rd8 25.Qh6+ Ke7 26.Qh7+ Kf8 27.h3 Qd2 28.Qxh4 Rd4 29.Qh8+ Bg8 30.Qh6+ Ng7 31.Rf1* 1-0 Aranaz Murillo,A (2658)-Zamlutti Junior,R (2656) Toshkent 2022*)* 17.Rb1 Be5 18.f4 c6 19.fxe5 cxd5 20.exf6 Nxf6 21.Bd3 Bd7 22.Qg3 Bc6 23.Rf1 Qb6+ 24.Kh1 Ne4 25.Qf4 h6 26.Qf7+ Kh8 27.Bxe4 dxe4 28.Bf6 Rg8 29.Qg6 Qe3 30.Bxg7+ 1-0 Firouzja,A (2703)-Aronian,L (2778) Skilling Open | Prelims 2020 (9.8)]
16...Be5 17.f4N
[17.Bc4 Kh8 18.f4 Bxb2 19.Rb1 c6 20.Rxb2 cxd5 21.Bxd5 Nc7 22.Bxb7 Rb8 23.Qb1 Nd5 24.Bxa7 Nc3 25.Qe1 Rxb7 26.Rxb7 Bxb7 27.Qxc3 Qa8 28.Bd4 Qxa2 29.Qb3 Qxb3 30.cxb3 Kg8 31.Kf2 Kf7 ½-½ Hinteregger,A (2719)-Marosi,G (2758) Jordan Memorial corr 2004]
17...Bxb2 18.Rb1 Ba3 19.Qa5 Be6 20.Bc4! c6! 21.Qxd8

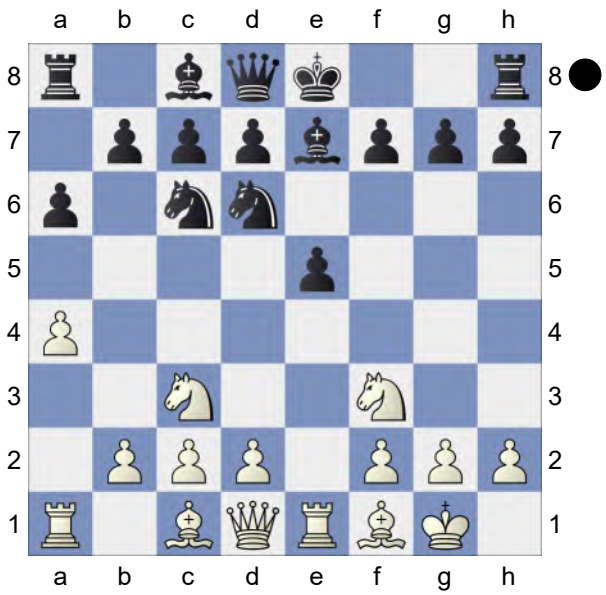
(Diagram)



Remove Defender **21...Rxd8** **22.Nxf6+** Discovered Attack **22...Kf7!** **23.Bxe6+** **Kxf6**
[Much weaker is 23...Kxe6?! 24.Nxe8 Rxe8 25.Rb3+-]
24.Bg8 This pair of bishops is nice. **24...Bc5** **25.Bxc5** **dxc5** **26.Bxh7=** Endgame. KRB-KRN
[26.Rxb7? perishes. Nd6 27.Rc7 Rxg8-+]
26...Nd6 Threatening ...g6. **27.g4** And now g5+ would win. **27...g6** Strongly threatening ...Rh8. **28.Re1** **Nf7** ...Rd4 would now be deadly. **29.g5+** **Kg7** **30.Re7!** aiming for f5! **30...Rf8** **31.Rxb7** -0.54/24
[31.Bxg6= -0.01/28 Kxg6 32.Kg2]
31...Kxh7∓ **32.Rxa7=** KRN-KR **32...Kg8!** **33.Rc7** -1.12/24
[33.Kg2∓ -0.64/26 might be stronger.]
33...Ra8 0.00/26
[33...Nd8∓ -1.12/24 34.Rc8 Nb7 35.Rxc6 Kg7 *(35...Rxf4 36.Rxg6+ Kf7 37.Rc6∓)* 36.Rc7+ Rf7 37.Rxf7+ Kxf7]
34.Rxc6 The position is equal. **34...Kg7** **35.Rxc5** **Nd6** **36.Rc7+** **Kf8** **37.Kf2** **Rxa2** **38.Kf3** **Ra3+** **39.c3** **Nb5** **40.Rc8+** **Kf7** **41.Kg4** **Rxc3** **42.Rxc3** **Nxc3** **43.f5** **Nd5** White must now prevent ...Ne3+. **44.fxg6+** **Kxg6** **45.h4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.04 (flawless)
½-½

285 **C67**
□ **Dronavalli,Harika** **2489**
■ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2546**
FIDE Women GP Monaco 2024-25 (5.1)
[Kitty Kat]

Bullet 1min C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4** 23 **e5** 15 **2.Nf3** 9 **Nc6** 8 **3.Bb5** 11 **Nf6** 27 **4.0-0** 19 **Nxe4** 16 **5.Re1** 25 **Nd6!** 20 **6.a4** 38 **Be7** 59 **7.Nc3** 26 **a6** 58 **8.Bf1** -0.35/21 53
[8.Bxc6= 0.17/21 dxc6 9.Nxe5]



8...e4!∓ 46 Deflection **9.Nxe4** 40 **Nxe4** 10 **10.Rxe4** 6 **d5** 10 **11.Re1** 22 **Bg4** 41 **12.c3** 49
[12.h3 Bh5 13.Be2 0-0 14.d4 Re8 15.Ne5 Bxe2 16.Rxe2 Nxe5 17.dxe5

Qd7 18.Qd3 Rad8 19.b3 Qe6 20.Bd2 Qg6 21.f4 f5 22.b4 Qe6 23.c3 c5 24.bxc5 Bxc5+ 25.Be3 Bxe3+ 26.Qxe3 Rc8 1-0 C 06/32 (2736)-Grube,J (2780) Paris-ch Blitz 2015 (5)]

12...d4 4:34 **13.d3N** 24

[13.h3 Bh5 14.g4 Bg6 15.b4 0-0 16.Bb2 dxc3 17.dxc3 Qxd1 18.Raxd1 Bd6 19.b5 axb5 20.axb5 Na5 21.c4 Rfe8 22.Ne5 f6 23.Nxg6 Rxe1 24.Rxe1 hxg6 25.Bg2 Rd8 26.Bc3 b6 27.Bd5+ Kf8 6.a4 2024]

13...0-0 3:16 **14.Bd2** 21 **Bxf3** 10:35 **15.Qxf3** 8 **Bg5** 24 **16.Rad1** 5:32 **Bxd2** 6:59 **17.Rxd2** 18 **Re8** 1:36 **18.Rde2** 6:02 **Rxe2** 1:21 **19.Qxe2** 2:53 **g6** 3:46 **20.Qe4** 19:05 **Qf6** 1:32 **21.c4** 16 **a5** 3:18 **22.h4** 6:07 **Rd8** 2:07 **23.g3** 2:00 **Kg7** 1:26 **24.Bh3** 3:06 **Nb4** 2:31 **25.Bf1** 17 **b6** 2:13 **26.Rc1** -0.83/24 6:45

[26.Qg2∓ -0.44/23]

26...Qd6 3:58 **27.h5** 8:08 **Qf6** 7:09

[27...gxh5 28.Qh4=]

28.Re1 51 **Qg5** -0.25/25 2:58

[28...gxh5∓ -0.81/24 29.b3 h4]

29.Qb7= 7:51 **Qc5** 2:13

[29...Qxh5? 30.Qxc7 Qg5 31.Qxb6+-]

30.Qe4 1:00 **Qg5** -0.01/21 6:55

[30...gxh5 31.Qf4=]

[30...Qxh5∓ -0.43/26 31.Qe7 Rd6 32.Qxc7 Rf6]

31.Qb7! 27 The position is equal.

31...Rd7 8:32

[31...Qxh5? too greedy. 32.Qxc7 Qg5 33.Qxb6+-]

32.Re8 8:27 **Rd8** 9:56 Against Qc8

[32...gxh5? loses. 33.Qc8 Qf5 34.Rd8+-]

33.Re1 53 Weighted Error Value: White=0.13 (very precise) /Black=0.09 (flawless)

[33.h6+ Kxh6 34.Rxd8 Qxd8=]

½-½

286 **C67**

□ **Nigmatov,Ortik** **2447**

■ **Nguyen,Ngoc Truong Son** **2646**

Masters Open 2024 (4.15) 06.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 0-0 8.d4 Nf5 9.Nf3 d5** White is slightly better. **10.g3**

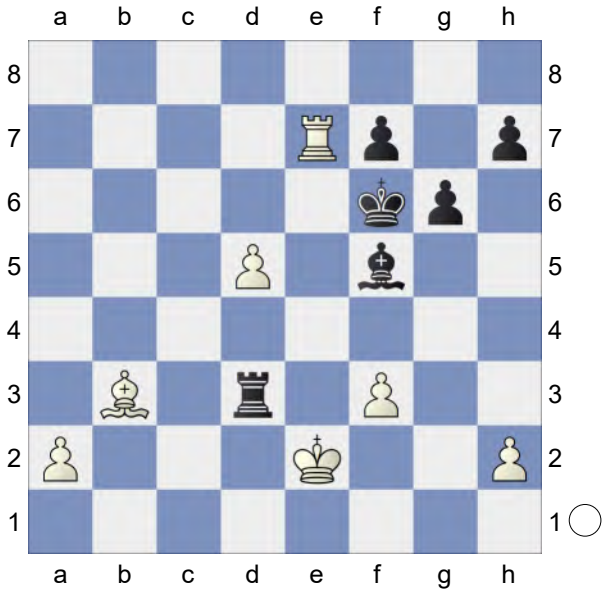
[10.c3 Re8 11.Bd3 Bf8 12.Rxe8 Qxe8 13.Nbd2 Nd6 14.Nf1 Ne7 15.Ng3 Nef5 16.Qc2 g6 17.Bf4 Nxg3 18.hxg3 Qd8 19.Re1 Bf5 20.Bxf5 Nxf5 21.g4 Nd6 22.Qb3 Qc8 23.Qxd5 c6 24.Qb3 Qxg4 1-0 Braeu,L (2539)-Pasini,N (2645) 2000 (7)]

10...Nd6N

[10...h6 11.c3 Be6 12.Nbd2 Qd7 13.a4 a5 14.Nb3 Bd6 15.Bd2 Qd8 16.Nc1 Nfe7 ½-½ Ilie,V (2633)-Campos (2704) 17/482 Las Palmas 1974 (10.2)]

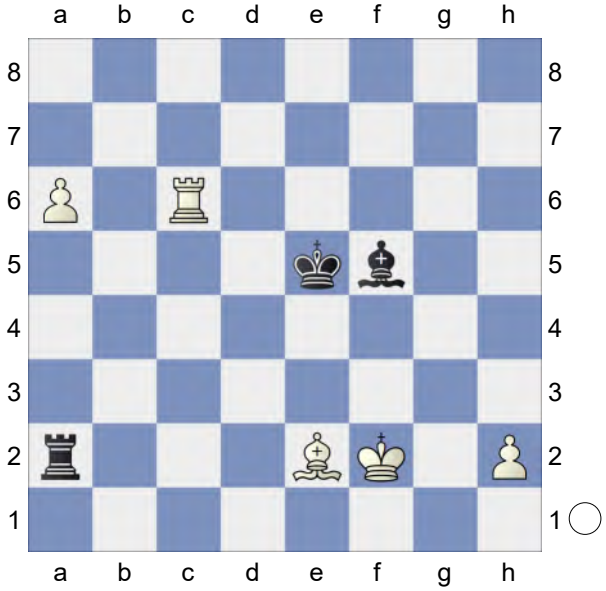
[10...Re8 11.Nc3 Be6 12.Ne2 g5 *(12...Bf8 13.Nf4 Bd7 14.Rxe8 Bxe8 15.Bh3 Nce7 16.Qd3 g6 17.Bd2 c6 18.Re1 Bd7 19.Ne5 Bc8 20.Bb4 Nd6 21.Qf3 Bxh3 22.Nxh3 Nef5 23.c3 a5 24.Bxd6 Nxd6 25.Qf4 Bg7 26.Ng5 Qf6 27.Qxf6* 0-1 Latvian Gambit (2663)-Molina,R (2837) (ch) 125/185 Russia 2015 (5)*)* 13.b3 h6 14.h3 Bf6 15.c3 Nd6 16.Bg2 Bg7 17.Be3 Qd7 18.h4 f6 19.hxg5 hxg5 20.Bxg5 fxg5 21.Nxg5 Bg4 22.Bxd5+ Kh8 23.Kg2 Bh6 24.Qd3 Bf5 25.Rh1 0-1 Ernst,H (2766)-Osnos,

V (2769) 77/(452) Batumi 1999 (3)]
11.Nc3 Be6 12.Bg2 Bf6 13.Bf4 Nf5 14.Nb5 Rc8 15.c3 a6 16.Na3 Nd6 0.69/20
[16...Nce7= 0.23/22]
17.Ne5± Be7 18.Nxc6 bxc6 19.Qa4 Rb8 20.Nc2
[20.Qxa6 Qd7∓]
20...a5 0.76/19 Dodges Nb4
[20...Rxb2± 0.32/19 deserves consideration. 21.Nb4 Bg5]
21.Qxc6 Rb6 22.Qa4 White is much more active. **22...Nc4 23.Ne3** 0.56/22
[23.b4± 0.97/22]
23...Nxb2 24.Qxa5 Nd3 25.Reb1 0.21/26
[25.Nxd5!± 0.91/24 Bxd5 26.Qxd5 *(26.Bxd5 Nxf4 27.gxf4 Bd6=)* 26...Qxd5 27.Bxd5 Nxe1 28.Rxe1]
25...Nxf4= 26.gxf4 Rxb1+ 0.81/17
[26...Qb8!= 0.21/22 27.Rb3 Rxb3 28.axb3 g6]
27.Rxb1± c6 28.Qxd8 Bxd8 29.c4! Bf6 1.46/25
[⌓29...dxc4 0.78/22 30.Bxc6 c3]
30.cxd5 cxd5 31.f5!
[31.Bxd5?! Bxd4 32.Rd1 Bf6=]
31...Bd7 32.Nxd5
[32.Bxd5?! Bxd4 33.Rb4 Bc5±]
32...Bg5 1.96/23
[32...Bh4± 1.38/20 33.Ne3 Rd8]
33.Rb7 0.86/22
[33.Ra1+- 1.96/23]
33...Bxf5 34.Ne7+ 0.19/17
[34.a4± 1.09/22 Threatens to win with a5. g6 35.Nb6 *(35.a5 Ra8±)*]
34...Bxe7= 35.Rxe7 Endgame. KRB-KRB **35...Rc8** Against Bc6 **36.Bd5 g6** 1.41/24
[36...Be6= 0.13/23 37.Bxe6 fxe6]
37.Bb3
[37.Rxf7? Rc1+ 38.Kg2 Be4+ 39.Bxe4 Kxf7 40.Bd5+ Kf6-+]
37...Rc3 38.Kf1!
[38.Rxf7? Rxb3 39.Rc7 Rd3-+]
[38.Bxf7+?! Kf8 39.Ra7 Bh3±]
38...Rd3 39.d5! Against Be6
[39.Rxf7? is the wrong capture. Rxb3 40.Rc7 *(40.Rxf5? Rb1+ 41.Kg2 gxf5-+)* 40...Rd3-+]
39...Bg4 2.10/21
[39...Kg7± 1.24/21]
40.Re3+- Rd4 41.f3 Bd7 3.04/23
[⌓41...Bf5 1.89/21 42.Ke2 Kf8]
42.Re7 Bf5 43.Kf2 And now Rb7 would win. **43...Kg7 44.Ke3** 1.27/19
[Better is 44.Rb7!+- 1.86/23]
44...Rd3+± 45.Ke2! Kf6 2.06/20
[45...h5± 0.68/19]



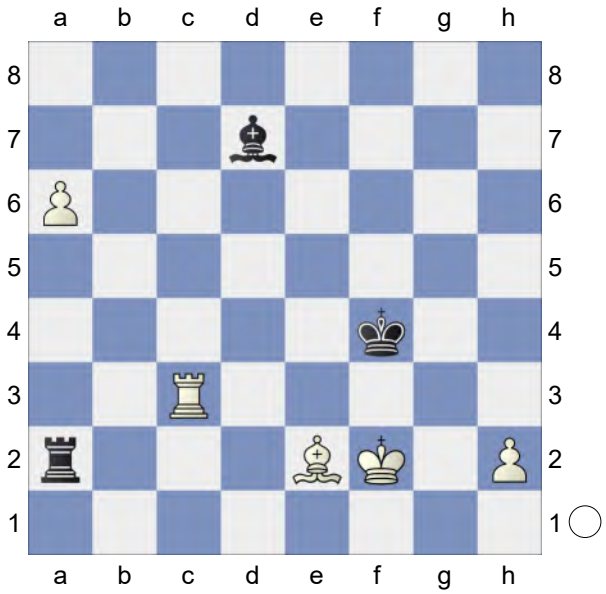
46.d6!+- Rxd6 47.Rxf7+ Ke5 48.Rxh7 g5 49.Rh8 Kf4 2.42/25
[49...Rd4± 1.34/20 50.Re8+ Kf4]
50.Rf8 aiming for Bc2. **50...Rh6 51.Kf1 Rc6** Dodges Bc2
[51...Rxh2? too greedy. 52.Be6 Kxf3 53.Rxf5++- *(53.Bxf5? Rh1#)*]
52.Rf7 0.69/21
[52.Kf2+- 1.91/21]
52...Ke5 1.96/22
[52...g4!± 0.69/21]

53.Kf2 Rc1 2.37/23
[53...Rh6 1.71/20 keeps fighting. 54.Kg3 Rc6 55.Re7+ Kf6]
54.Rb7 Rc3 2.47/28
[54...g4± 1.58/19 55.fxg4 Bxg4]
55.Rb5+ Kf6 56.Rb4 Rc1 57.a4 Bd7 3.12/21
[⌓57...Ra1 2.22/19 58.h4 gxh4]
58.a5 a6 would now be deadly. **58...Ra1 59.Rb6+ Ke5 60.a6 g4** 3.60/20
[60...Ra5 2.23/21 might work better. 61.Rg6 Bf5 62.Rxg5 Kf4]
61.fxg4 Bxg4 62.Bc4 Bc8 63.Rc6 Bf5 64.Be2 Ra2



65.Rc5+! Kf4 66.Rc3 Repels Bd3
66...Bd7

(Diagram)



67.Rc4+? 0.06/20
[67.Ke1!+- 3.30/22]
67...Ke5= The position is equal. **68.Ke3** Black must now prevent Rc5+. **68...Rxe2+ 69.Kxe2** KR-KB **69...Bb5** Pin **70.Kd3 Bxa6** Pin **71.Kc3 Bxc4 72.Kxc4 Kf4 73.Kb5 Kg4 74.Ka4 Kh3 75.Ka5 Kxh2** Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.20 (precise) /Black=0.31
½-½

287 **C67**
□ **Xu,Xiangyu** **2578**
■ **Dai,Changren** **2536**
CHN-chT Nanjing (4.1) 17.02.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 For some reason, I always feel like Kramnik losing violates some basic law of nature. Nevertheless, I'll do my best to explain how such a thing took place. For some reason, I always feel like Kramnik losing violates some basic law of nature. Nevertheless, I'll do my best to explain how such a thing took

place. For some reason, I always feel like Kramnik losing violates some basic law of nature. Nevertheless, I'll do my best to explain how such a thing took place. Mikhalevski, V: 'Friedel,J: 'For some reason, I always feel like Kramnik losing violates some basic law of nature. Nevertheless, I'll do my best to explain how such a thing took place. '' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.dxe5 Nxb5 7.a4 Nbd4 8.Nxd4 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 d5! 10.Nc3**

[10.exd6 Qxd6 11.Qe3+ Be6 12.Nc3 a6 13.Rd1 Qc6 14.Rd3 Rc8 15.Ne2 Bc5 16.Qg3 f6 17.Be3 Bd6 18.Bf4 Bxf4 19.Nxf4 0-0 20.Rc3 Qd6 21.Nxe6 Qxe6 22.Rxc7 Rxc7 23.Qxc7 Rc8 24.Qxb7 Rxc2 1-0 Andreikin,D (2706)-Kramnik,V (2796) RUS-ch 66th Nizhnij Novgorod 2013 (3)]

10...c6 11.a5 Be7N outshines the older 11...Bf5. erfolgreicher als das alte 11...Lf5.

[11...Bf5 12.f4 *(12.Re1 Be7 13.Re2 0-0 14.b4 b6 15.b5 Be6 16.bxc6 Rc8 17.Nb5 Bc5 18.Qd3 bxa5 19.c7 Qh4 20.Rxa5 Bb6 21.Ra6 Bxc7 22.Ba3 Rfd8 23.Rxa7 Bb8 24.Be7 Qf4 25.Ra1 Re8 26.Bd6 Bd7* 1-0 Vignesh,N (2513)-Wagner,J (2125) Bad Woerishofen op 38th 2023 (3) *)* 12...Bxc2 *(12...Qd7 13.Rf2 h5 14.Be3 Rh6 15.Na4 Rg6 16.Rd1 Be7 17.Qc3 Be4 18.Rdd2 b6 19.axb6 axb6 20.f5 Bxf5 21.Nxb6 Ra1+ 22.Rf1 Rxf1+ 23.Kxf1 Qb7 24.Qa5 Re6 25.c4 Rxe5 26.Bd4 Bg5 27.Bxe5* ½-½ Ibd2 (2575)-9.♗f3 ♕ c7 10. ♗ e3_70261 (2645) corr?_297284 1972*)* 13.f5 c5 14.Qg4 d4 15.Bg5 h5 16.Qf3 Qd7 17.e6 Qc6 18.Nd5 f6 19.a6 Kd8 20.Bf4 Rc8 21.axb7 Qxb7 22.Bd2 Rb8 23.Ba5+ Kc8 24.e7 Bxe7 25.Nxe7+ Kd7 26.Qe2 1-0 Kolmakov,S (2560)-Skvortsov,A (2500) 33/223 Vinkovci 1982]

12.b4 Bf5N

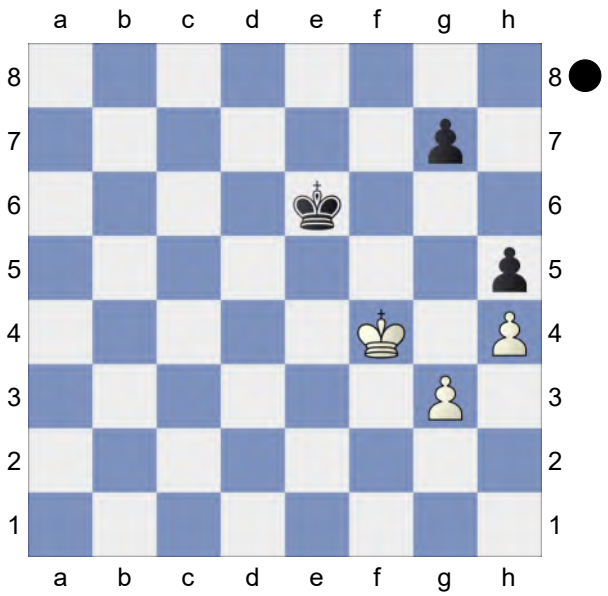
[Vorgänger: 12...0-0 13.Ne2 f6 Threatens to win with ...f6xe5. 14.Bf4 Qd7 15.c3 Bd8 16.Qd2 Qe7 17.exf6 Qxf6 18.Be3 Bc7 19.Bd4 Qh4 20.Ng3 Bf4 21.Qe2 Bg4 ½-½ (21) Oleksienko,M (2594)-Kamsky,G (2684) Germany 2021]

13.b5 Qd7 14.a6 0-0 15.axb7 Qxb7 16.bxc6 Qxc6 17.Nxd5

[Weaker is 17.Rxa7 Bc5 18.Qa4 Qxa4 19.Rxa4 d4∓ *(19...Bxc2 20.Rxa8 Rxa8 21.Nxd5=)*]

17...Bc5 18.Ba3 Bxd4 A strong pair of Bishops. **19.Ne7+ Kh8 20.Nxc6** The position is equal. **20...Bxa1 21.Bxf8 Bxe5 22.Nxe5 Rxf8=** Endgame KRB-KRN **23.Ra1 Bxc2 24.Rxa7 Bg6 25.Nxg6+ fxg6** KR-KR **26.Kh1 Kg8 27.Kg1 Rf7 28.Ra8+ Rf8 29.Rxf8+ Kxf8** K3P-K3P **30.f4 Kf7 31.Kf2 Kf6 32.Kf3 g5 33.fxg5+ Kxg5** KPP-KPP **34.Ke4 Kf6 35.h4 Ke6 36.g3 h5 37.Kf4**

(Diagram)

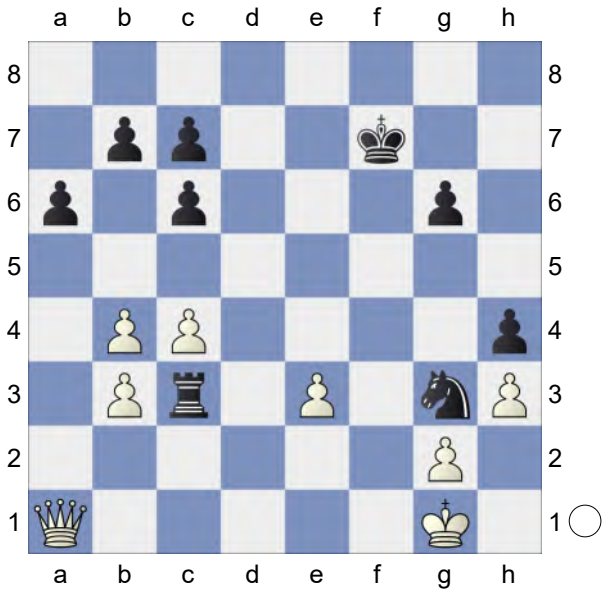


And now Kf4-g5 would win. **37...Kf6 38.g4 hxg4 39.Kxg4 g6 40.h5 gxh5+ 41.Kxh5** A balanced but interesting game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.03 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
½-½

288 **C65**
□ **Caruana,Fabiano** **2766**
■ **Madaminov,Mukhiddin** **2436**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Feb Early ..
[Kitty Kat]

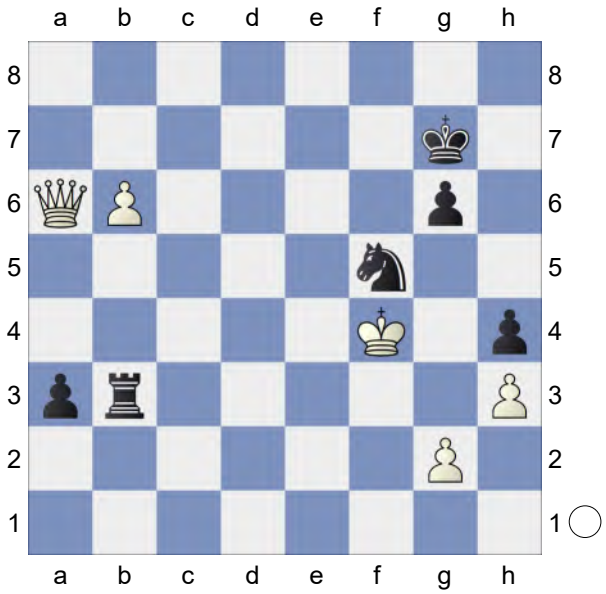
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 In this game, I bring to your attention a variation which became very popular recently - 6. Nbd2. This move tends to be rather flexbile since White could go either Nc4 or Nb3. Generally speaking, in this line, White often obtains a pair of bishops. Nevertheless, in order to exchange one of the opponent's bishops, he should spend some valuable time. Black makes use of it to activate his minor pieces. I am convinced that the arising positions are pretty much level. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.0-0 Nd7 8.Nb3** White has an edge. **8...Bb6 9.Ng5!?** Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain. Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
9...Bxb3 10.axb3N f6 11.Nf3
[Much worse is 11.Ne6 Qe7 12.Qg4 g6∓]
11...Nc5 12.Nd2 Ne6
[12...0-0 13.Nc4 Ne6 14.Kh1 Qd7 15.Qg4 Rad8 16.Be3 Bd4 17.Bxd4 Nxd4 18.Qxd7 Rxd7 19.Rxa7 Nxc2 20.Rxb7 Rxd3 21.h4 Nd4 22.b4 Ne6 23.Rc1 Ra8 24.b5 cxb5 25.Rxb5 Rad8 26.f3 h5 27.Kh2 Nakamura,H (2787)-Kramnik,V (2801) Zürich 2016 [GM Kiril Georgiev] ½-½ (72)]
13.Qh5+ g6 14.Qd1 Qd7N
[14...Bc5 15.Nc4 b5 16.Na5 Qd7 17.Be3 Bb6 18.b4 0-0 19.Qd2 f5 20.exf5 gxf5 21.Qc3 f4 22.Bxb6 cxb6 23.Nxc6 Qd6 24.Rxa7 Rxa7 25.Nxa7 f3 26.Qc6 Qe7 27.Nxb5 Kh8 28.g3 Qf7 29.Ra1 Roehrich,S (2705)-Hantel,T (2760) Sydney 2014 CR97-82 [Zozulia,A; Malakhatko,V] 1-0 (33)]
15.Nc4 Bc5 16.Be3 a6
[16...Bxe3 0.47/28 16...Be7 0.16 17.Nxe3 -0.49/29 *(17.fxe3± 0.47/28 0-0 18.Qg4)* 17...a6∓ 18.b4 0-0 0.22/29 *(18...0-0-0∓* -0.60/27 *)* 19.Kh1 Kh8 ½-½ (35) Martinez Alcantara,J (2583)-Munoz Pantoja,M (2513) Le Blanc Mesnil 2019 20.Qd2 Rad8 21.Ra5 Qe7 22.g3 Rd4]
17.Qe1 Bxe3 18.fxe3 0-0 19.b4 Kg7 0.43/25
[19...b5= 0.09/28 should be considered. 20.Na5 c5]

20.Qc3
[20.Na5!?]
20...Rae8 21.Rf2 h5 22.Na5 Nd8 23.Nb3 Nf7 24.Raf1 Nd6 25.Na5 Rf7 26.b3 0.06/33
[26.Nb3± 0.43/29]
26...Qe7 27.h3 h4 28.Rf3 Rh8 29.Nc4 Rh5 30.Qe1 f5 0.71/23
[30...Nxc4= 0.14/26 remains equal. 31.bxc4 c5]
31.Nd2± Rh8 32.c4 0.17/29
[32.exf5± 0.94/27 aiming for f6+. Nxf5 33.e4]
32...fxe4!= 33.Rxf7+ Nxf7 34.Nxe4 Nd6 35.Nf2 Nf5 Hoping for ...Ng3.
36.Ng4 Ng3 37.Rf3 Rd8 38.Qa1 Rxd3? 3.83/23
[38...Re8± 0.59/23]
39.Nxe5+- Threatening mate with Nf7+.
39...Rc3 40.Rf7+ Qxf7 41.Nxf7 Kxf7 Endgame



KQ-KRN **42.Kf2! Rxb3 43.Qe5 Nf5 44.Qxc7+ Ne7 45.Qxb7 a5 46.b5 cxb5 47.cxb5 a4 48.Qa6 a3 49.Kf3 Nf5 50.Qa4 Rxe3+ 51.Kf4 Kf6 52.Qa6+ Kg7 53.b6 Rb3**

(Diagram)



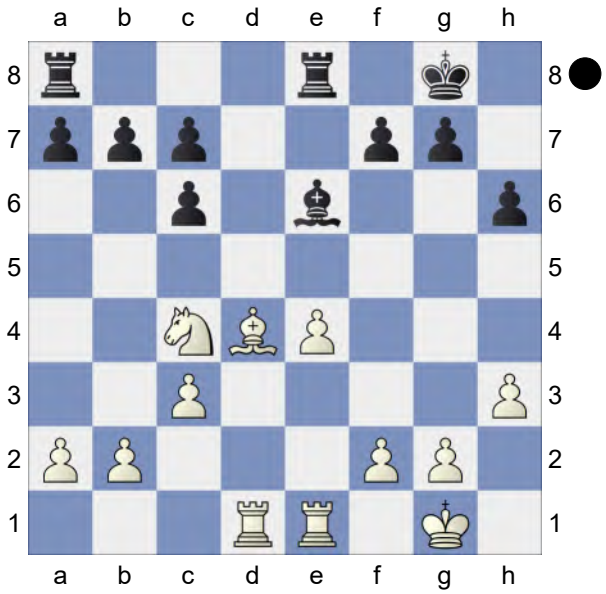
54.b7? 0.00/49
[White has to play 54.Qa4!+- 5.33/21 Rb1 55.Qxa3]
54...Kh6= The position is equal. **55.Qa8 Rb4+ 56.Ke5** Intending Qf8+ and mate.
56...a2 57.Qxa2 White wants to mate with Qd2+. **57...Rxb7 58.Qa6 Rf7 59.Qa8 Kh7 60.Kf4 Kh6 61.Qh8+ Rh7 62.Qf8+ Rg7! 63.Kg4 Kh7 64.Kg5 Rg8 65.Qc5 Rg7 66.Qe5 Rg8 67.Qc7+ Rg7 68.Qe5 Rg8 69.Qf4 Rg7 70.Kf6** Predecessor: Predecessor:
70...Rg8 71.Kg5 Rg7 72.Kf6 Rg8 73.Kg5 Black defended with fortune.
Weighted Error Value: White=0.19 (very precise) /Black=0.28 (precise) . Sensor Board Error (Ke4/e5)?
1-0

289 **C65**
□ **Divya,Deshmukh** **2470**
■ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2548**
Nikosia WGP 2025 (3.3) 17.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

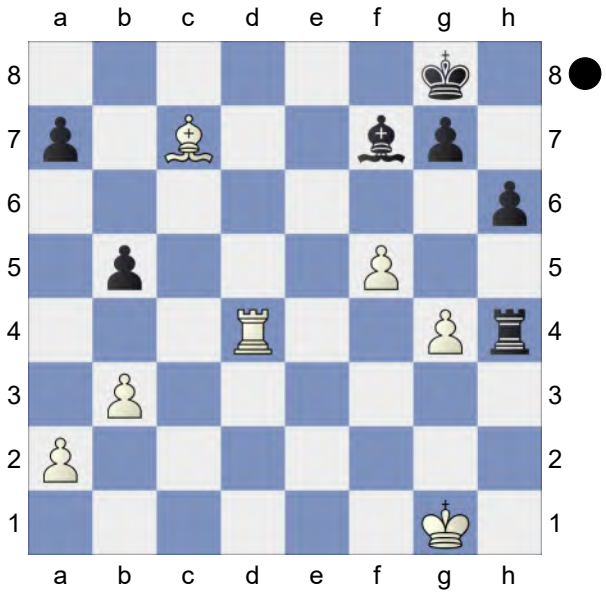
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3... Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4**

e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0 Nd7 7.c3 h6 8.d4
[8.Nbd2 0-0 9.Nc4 Re8 10.b4 Bd6 11.Be3 Nf8 12.Nfd2 Ng6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.a4 d5 15.Nb3 b6 16.a5 Rb8 17.Qc2 Be6 18.Rfb1 Re7 19.c4 d4 20.Bd2 f5 21.axb6 axb6 22.f3 Rf7 Carlsen,M (2855)-Karjakin, S (2758) Stavanger 2021 CBM 204 [Nielsen, Peter Heine] 1-0 (53)]
8...Bd6 9.Be3 0-0 10.Nbd2 Re8N
[10...exd4 11.Nxd4 Ne5 12.f4 Ng4 13.Qe2 *(13.Qf3 c5 14.Ne2 f5 15.e5 Be7 16.Rfd1 Nxe3 17.Qxe3 Qe8 18.c4 Be6 19.a4 Rd8 20.b3* Chapter-Berlin 4.d3 Bc5 [GM Ivan Cheparinov]*)* 13...Nxe3 14.Qxe3 c5 15.N4f3 f5 16.Ne5 Bxe5 17.fxe5 Qe7 18.exf5 Bxf5 19.Rae1 Rad8 20.Rf2 b6 21.a3 a5 22.Ref1 Qe6 23.h3 Bg6 24.Rxf8+ Rxf8 25.Rxf8+ Voelkl,S (2618)-Mu,K (2663) Hastings 2023 Inf52 [Shaw, John] 0-1 (51) Kxf8 26.Nf3 Ke7 27.Kf2 Qc4 28.g4 Qb3 29.Qe2 Qa4 30.Kg3 Be4 31.Nd2 Bc6 32.Nf1 Bb5 33.Qf3 Bxf1 34.Qxf1 Qc2 35.Qb5 Qe4 36.Kf2 Qxe5 37.Kg2 Qe4+ 38.Kg3 Kd6 39.Qb3 Qe5+ 40.Kh4 Svane,F (2618)-Cheparinov,I (2663) Baku 2023 CBM 216 [Cheparinov, Ivan] 0-1 (51)]
11.dxe5 Bxe5 12.Nxe5 Nxe5 13.h3 Qd3
[13...b6!?]
14.Re1 Be6 0.30/20
[⌓14...Qd8 -0.01/19]
15.Bd4 Nc4 0.77/22
[15...Ng6= 0.19/20 remains equal.]
16.Nxc4± Qxd1 17.Raxd1

(Diagram)



And now b3 would win. **17...Bxc4 18.b3 Be6 19.f4 f6 20.c4 Bf7 21.g4** 0.25/24
[21.Bb2± 0.84/20]
21...b5= 22.cxb5 cxb5 23.e5 fxe5 0.71/22
[23...Rad8± 0.38/22]
24.Bxe5± Rad8 25.Rxd8 &Bianco is more active. **25...Rxd8 26.Bxc7** Endgame KRB-KRB **26...Rd3 27.f5 Rxh3 28.Rd1 Rh4** The position is equal. **29.Rd4**



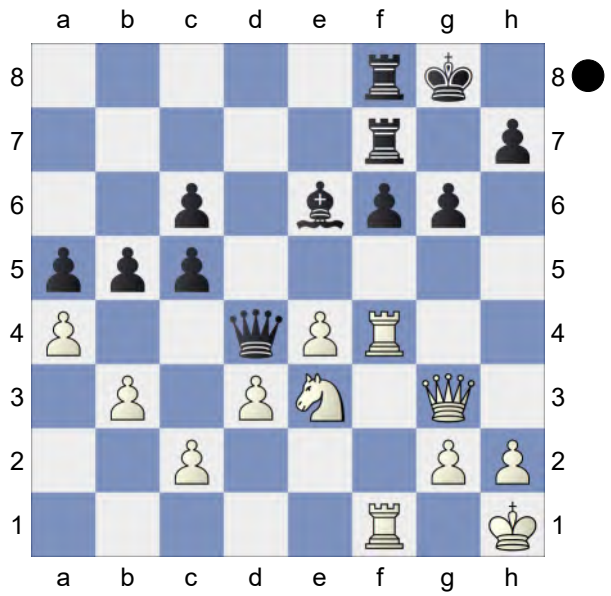
Threatens to win with Bg3. **29...h5 30.Kg2 Rxg4+ 31.Rxg4 hxg4=** KB-KB

32.Kg3 Bd5 33.Kxg4 Be4 34.b4 Kf7 35.Kg5 a6 36.a3 Bc2 37.Be5 Bd3 38.Bd4 Bc2 39.Be5 Bd3 40.Bd4 Bc2 41.Be5 Bd3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.09 (flawless)
½-½

290 **C65**
□ **Gurel,Ediz** **2624**
■ **Lu,Miaoyi** **2429**
Tata Steel-B 87th (10) 29.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

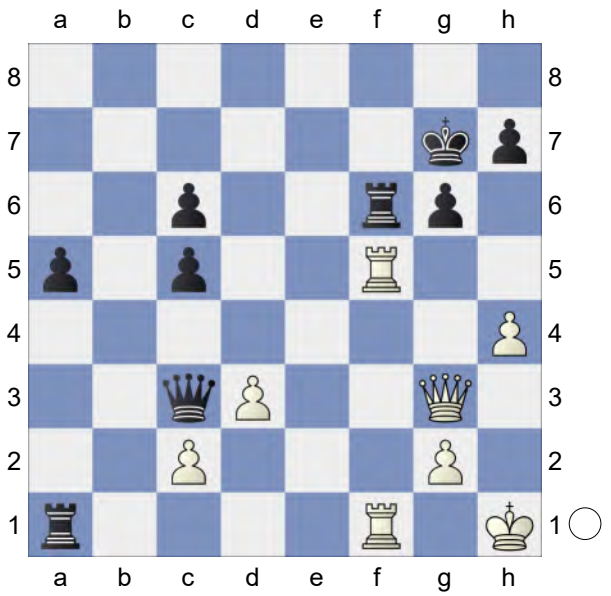
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.Nc4 f6! The main line 7...f6 scores better than 7...0-0. Die Hauptvariante 7...f6 punktet besser als 7...0-0. **8.a4**
[8.0-0 Nf8 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.Nxe3 Ne6 11.c3 c5 12.Qc2 0-0 13.Rad1 Kh8 14.Rd2 Qe8 15.d4 cxd4 16.cxd4 exd4 17.Nxd4 Nxd4 18.Rxd4 c6 19.Rfd1 Be6 20.a3 Qe7 21.Qd3 Rae8 22.f3 h6 0-1 Sjugirov,S (2712)-Karjakin,S (2747) Krasnogorsk Blitz 2023 (17)]
[8.c3 Nf8 9.Be3 Bxe3 10.Nxe3 Be6 11.d4 Ng6 12.0-0 0-0 13.Qa4 a5 14.Rad1 Qe7 15.Nf5 Qf7 16.dxe5 Nxe5 17.Nxe5 fxe5 18.Ne3 Qg6 19.Qc2 Rf4 20.f3 Raf8 21.Qe2 Qf7 22.Rd2 Qe7 1-0 Pranesh,M (2598)-Concio,M (2373) Abu Dhabi op-A 30th 2024 (1)]
8...a5 9.0-0 0-0 10.Be3 Bxe3N
[10...Re8 11.Kh1 Bf8 12.Nh4 Nc5 13.Nf5 Bxf5 14.exf5 e4 15.d4 Nxa4 16.Rxa4 b5 17.Rxa5 bxc4 18.Qd2 Rxa5 19.Qxa5 Qd5 20.Qxc7 Bd6 21.Qd7 Ra8 22.g4 h6 23.Kg2 Bf8 24.Qe6+ Qxe6 25.fxe6 ½-½ Juilfs,G (2561)-Hantel,T (2753) Maranhense-ch I Etapa 2003 (1.2) Bd6 26.Re1 Ra2 27.Bc1 c3 28.bxc3 Rxc2 29.Be3 Kf8 30.Ra1 g5 31.Ra7 Ke8 32.Rd7 Bf4 33.Kf1 Rxc3 34.Ke2 Bxe3 35.fxe3 Rc2+ 36.Kd1 Rxh2 37.Rc7 Rh1+ 38.Kd2 Rh2+ 39.Kc3 Rh1 40.Kb4 ½-½ Ivic,V (2561)-Kramnik,V (2753) Julius Baer Rapid Div 3 W 2023 (1.2)]
11.Nxe3 Nc5 12.Nh4N
[12.Kh1 Ne6 13.Ng1 Nd4 0.28/20 *(13...b6* -0.10/18 was preferable.*)* 14.f4= exf4 15.Rxf4 Be6 16.Qh5 Qd7 17.Rf2 b6 18.Nh3 Bxh3 19.gxh3 f5 20.Nxf5 Nxf5 ½-½ Mikhalchuk,V (2449)-Rudenko,V (2381) Champion's League 17/Champ email 2015 [3]]
12...g6 13.Nf3 Ne6 14.Kh1 b6 15.Ng1 c5 16.Ne2 c6 0.25/19
[⌓16...Qd6 -0.17/18]
17.b3 Ra7 0.44/19
[17...Qc7= 0.06/17]
18.f4± exf4 19.Nxf4 Nxf4 20.Rxf4 Qd4 21.Qg1 Be6 22.Raf1 b5 23.Qf2 Raf7 24.Qg3

(Diagram)



Qe5 25.Nf5 Rb7 26.Ne3 Black must now prevent Rf4xf6!. **26...Kg7 27.h4 bxa4 28.bxa4 Rb4 29.Ng4! Bxg4 30.Qxg4 Rf7**
[30...Rxa4 simplifies 31.h5 Qxh5+ 32.Qxh5 gxh5 33.Rf5 c4]
31.Rf5 Qd4= 0.01/22 **32.R5f4 Qe5 33.Rf5 Qc3** 0.38/21 **34.Qg3?** -1.13/23
[34.h5± 0.38/21]
34...Rxa4 0.01/22
[34...Qxc2 35.Rxf6 *(35.e5 Qxa4 36.exf6+* Discovered Attack *Kg8±)* 35...Rxf6 36.Qe5+-]
[34...Rxe4∓ -1.13/23 35.Qf2 Rxa4 36.Rxc5 Rxh4+ 37.Kg1 Qb4 38.Rxa5 Qxa5 39.Qxh4 Qc3]
35.e5= The position is equal. **35...Ra1!** Strongly threatening ...Ra1xf1+.
36.exf6+ Rxf6

(Diagram)

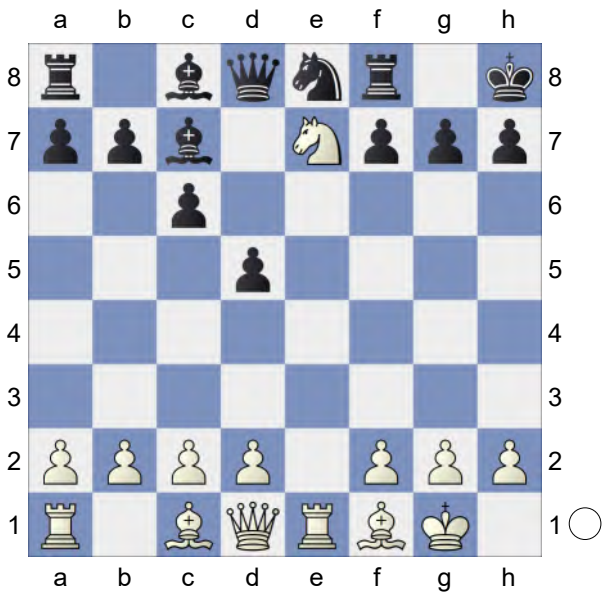


Pin **37.Qc7+ Kh6 38.Qf4+ Kg7 39.Qc7+**
[39.Rxf6? Rxf1+ 40.Qxf1 Qxf6∓]
39...Kh6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.14 (very precise) /Black=0.11 (very precise)
½-½

291 **C67**
□ **Vokhidov,Shamsiddin** **2514**
■ **Yakubboev,Nodirbek** **2577**
Tashkent Kasimdzhanov Cup-A 1st (8)
[Kitty Kat]

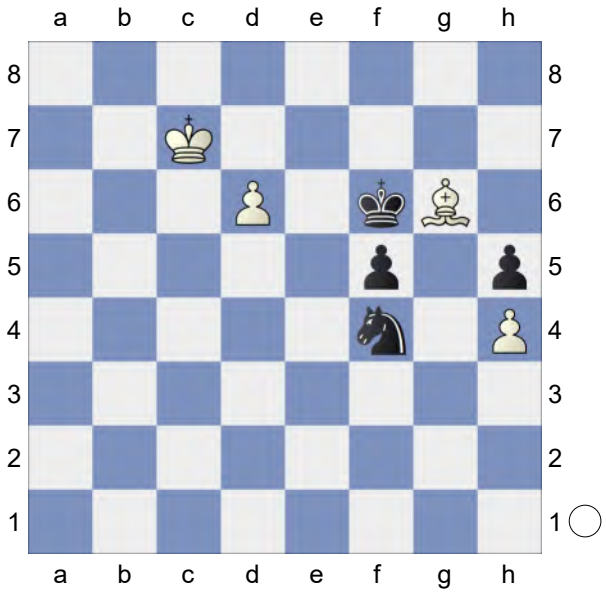
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.Nc3 Ne8 10.Nd5 Bd6 11.Re1** The position is equal. **11...c6**
[Don't take 11...Qh4 12.g3 Qd8 13.d4±]
12.Ne3 Bc7 13.Nf5 d5 14.Ne7+ Kh8

(Diagram)



aiming for ...Be6. **15.Nxc8**
[15.d4 feels hotter. Qd6 16.Qh5 Nf6 17.Nxc8 Rfxc8 18.Qh3]
15...Rxc8 16.d3
[16.g3 Nd6 17.Bh3 f5 18.d3 Qf6 19.c3 Rce8 20.Bd2 Nf7 21.Rxe8 Rxe8 22.Qf1 f4 23.Re1 Rf8 24.Qe2 h6 25.Kh1 Ng5 26.Bg4 Bd6 27.h4 Nh7 28.Kg2 Qg6 29.Bh5 Qf5 30.Bg4 Qg6 Nakamura,H (2772)-Carlsen,M (2862) Saint Louis 2013 CBM 157 [Ramirez Alvarez,Alejandro] ½-½ (32)]
16...Qd7N
[16...f5 17.Qf3 *(17.Bd2 Nf6 18.Qf3 Qd7 19.g3* Lesson 19: Spanish,B-Spanish Berlin 4. O-O Nxe4,7*)* 17...Qf6 18.Rb1 Nd6 19.b4 Rce8 20.Rxe8 Rxe8 21.Bb2 d4 22.g3 a5 23.bxa5 Bxa5 24.a4 c5 25.h4 h6 26.Bh3 g6 27.Rf1 Kg7 28.Bc1 g5 29.Bg2 Kg6 30.Qd5 b6 31.Bf3 Duda,J (2750)-Indjic,A (2620) Chennai 2022 Chess Informant 153 [Perunovic,Milos] ½-½ (74) Nf7 32.Qd7 Qe6 33.Qb7 Ne5 34.Bd5 Qe7 35.Qxe7 Rxe7 36.f4 Ng4 37.Bf3 gxh4 38.Bxg4 fxg4 39.f5+ Kf7 40.gxh4 h5 41.Bg5 Re2 42.Rf2 Re1+ 43.Kg2 Re8 44.f6 Re5 45.Kg1 Be1 46.Rf1 Ferri,S (2726)-Lazarevic,M (2625) The Week in Chess 273 [John Watson] 0-1 (74)]
[16...Nf6 17.Qf3 Qd7 18.g3 Rce8 19.Bd2 Bb6 20.h3 Bd4 21.c3 Bb6 22.Rxe8 Rxe8 23.Re1 Kg8 24.Bg2 Rxe1+ 25.Bxe1 Qe6 26.Bd2 Nd7 27.Kf1 h6 28.Qe2 Nc5 29.Qxe6 Nxe6 30.Ke2 Kf8 31.h4 Song,Y (2317)-Zhai,M (2374) Fuling 2022 ½-½ (39)]
17.Qf3 Nd6 18.c3!N An important novelty. Eine beachtenswerte Neuerung.
[Predecessor: 18.g3 Rce8 19.Bd2 Kg8 20.c3 Re6 21.Qg4 Rfe8 22.Bh3 Rxe1+ 23.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 24.Bxe1 Qxg4 25.Bxg4 ½-½ (31) Stevic,H (2600)-Prohaszka,P (2617) Bol 2015]
18...Rce8 19.Bf4 Rxe1 20.Rxe1 Re8 21.Rxe8+ Nxe8 22.Bd2 Nf6 23.g3 Qe6 24.Qe3 Qxe3 25.Bxe3± Endgame KBB-KBN **25...b6** 0.86/20
[25...Bb8± 0.32/19]
26.Bh3 Kg8 27.Bc8 Kf8 28.Bb7 c5 29.Bg5 d4 30.cxd4 cxd4 31.Kf1 Ke7 32.Ke2 h6 33.Bd2 Nd7 34.b4 Bd6 35.h3 h5 36.Kf3 f5 37.a3 Kf6 38.h4 Ne5+ 39.Ke2 g6 40.Bc1 a5 1.63/24
[40...Nf7± 1.16/22 was necessary.]
41.Bb2+- axb4 1.79/24
[41...Nd7± 1.46/20 42.bxa5 *(42.Bxd4+ Be5±)* 42...bxa5 43.Bxd4+ Ke6]
42.axb4 Bxb4 43.Bxd4 Ke6 44.Bxb6 Bd6 45.Bc8+ Ke7 46.Be3 Ng4 47.Bg5+ Kf7 48.Ba6 Bc5 49.f3 Ne5 50.Be3 Bxe3 2.27/30
[⌓50...Bb4 1.79/23 51.d4 Nc6]
51.Kxe3 KB-KN **51...Kf6 52.Bb7** Prevents Nc6. Black must now prevent

Kd4. **52...Nf7 53.Bd5 Nd6 54.Bc6 Ke5** 2.21/32
[⌓54...Kf7 1.83/29 55.Kd4 Kf6]
55.f4+ Ke6 2.43/40
[⌓55...Kf6 4.09/39 56.Kd4 Ke6]
56.Kd4 Nc8? 8.25/30
[56...Ke7 3.50/38 57.Kc5 Nf7]
57.Kc5 4.12/40
[⌓57.Be8 8.25/30 Ne7 58.Kc5]
57...Nd6 58.Kd4? 0.01/40
[White should play 58.Ba4+- 4.14/42 Ke7 59.Bb3]
58...Ke7? 3.91/38
[58...Nc8!= 0.01/40 and Black has nothing to worry.]
59.Kd5 Nf7 60.Kc5 Nd6 61.Bd5 Ne8 62.Bb3 Nf6 63.Kd4 Ne8 64.Ke5 Nf6 65.Kd4? -0.01/33
[65.Bd1+- 3.56/34 Strongly threatening Bf3. Ne8 66.Kd4]
65...Ne8!= 66.Kc5? -0.01/33
[Better is 66.Ba2+- 2.79/34]
66...Nd6? 4.31/37
[66...Nf6= -0.01/33]
67.Kc6+- Ne8 68.Bd5 Nd6 69.Bg8 Ne8 70.Bb3 Nd6 71.Ba4 Ne8 72.d4 Nd6 4.60/40
[⌓72...Nf6 3.25/37 73.d5 Ne4]
73.Kc7 Ne4 74.d5 Nd6 Inhibits Bb5.
75.Bd7 Ne4 76.Be6 Nf6? 7.35/34 Against Bg8
[76...Nc3 3.87/33 77.Bg8 Nb5+ 78.Kb6 Nd4]
77.Kc6 Ne4 78.Kc7? 0.01/28
[78.Bg8+- 7.65/32 And now Bh7 would win. Nxg3 79.Kc7]
78...Nf6!= 79.Kc6 Ne4 80.Bg8 Bh7 is the strong threat. **80...Nxg3 81.Kc7** White threatens d6+ and mate. **81...Ne4** Prevents d6+. **82.Bh7 Nd6 83.Bxg6 Nb5+ 84.Kb6 Nc3 85.Kc6 Ne2 86.Kc7?** 1.12/26
[86.Bxh5+- 7.31/28 has better winning chances. Nd4+ 87.Kc5 Nb3+ 88.Kb4]
86...Nxf4± 87.d6+
[But not 87.Bxf5?! Nxd5+ 88.Kb7 Kf6=]
87...Kf6? #21/22
[87...Ke6± 1.05/27]



88.d7! Ne6+ 89.Kd6 Nd8 90.Bxh5 f4 91.Bf3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.25 (precise)
1-0

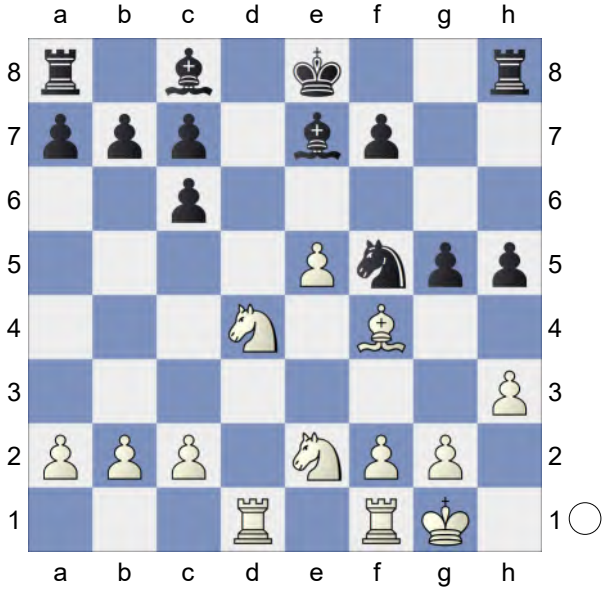
292 **C67**
□ **Muzychuk,Anna** **2533**
■ **Goryachkina,A..** **2604**
23rd European Teams Women (8.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Ke8 10.Nc3 h5 11.Bf4 Be7 12.Rad1 Nh4**
[12...Be6 13.Ng5 Rh6 14.Rfe1 Bb4 15.g4 hxg4 16.hxg4 Ne7 17.Nxe6 Rxe6 18.Kg2 Rd8 19.Rxd8+ Kxd8

20.Rd1+ Kc8 21.Bg3 Bxc3 22.bxc3 Rg6 23.Rd4 f5 24.Bh4 c5 25.Rf4 Nd5 26.Rxf5 Rxg4+ 27.Bg3 ½-½ Deslandes,P (2801)-Osnos,V (2787) La 70/(299) Havana 1997 (9)]

13.Nd4 Nf5 14.Nf3N Repels g5 **14...Nh4** The position is equal. **15.Nd4 Nf5 16.Nce2 g5**

[16...Nxd4 17.Nxd4 a6 18.e6 Bxe6 19.Nxe6 fxe6 20.Bxc7 Rc8 21.Bb6 Bd8 22.Bd4 Bf6 Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence-9. ♘c3 ♔e8 10.h3 h5 Survey 2011]



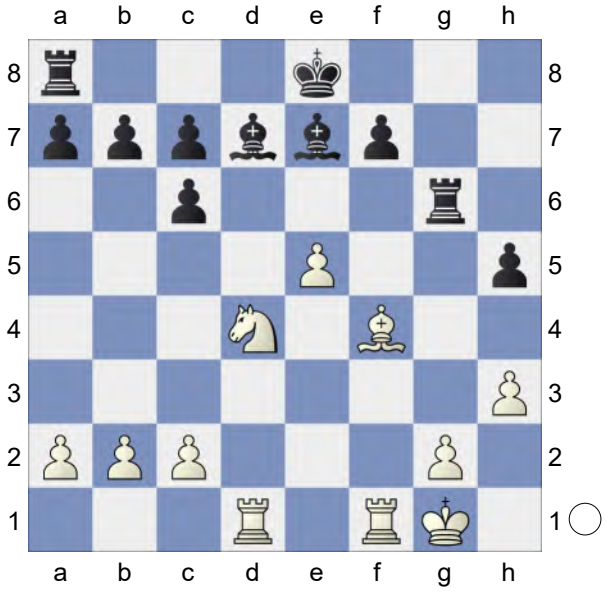
Hoping for ...Nxd4. **17.Bh2**

[17.Bc1 Nxd4 18.Nxd4 a6 19.e6 fxe6 20.Rfe1 Kf7 21.Nf3 Rg8 22.Re5 Bf6 23.Bxg5 Bxe5 24.Nxe5+ Kg7 25.Kh2 a5 26.Kg3 a4 27.f4 Ra6 28.Rd3 c5 29.Rc3 Rd6 30.Rxc5 c6 31.Kh4 Rd2 1-0 Jiang,Q (2246)-Wu,Y (1972) China zt 3.5 2023 (1)]

17...Rh6

[17...a6 18.e6 Nd6 19.Rfe1 Rh6 20.exf7+ Kxf7 21.Nf3 g4 22.Ne5+ Kg7 23.Bf4 Rh7 24.hxg4 hxg4 25.Ng3 Bf6 26.Nd3 Nf5 27.Ne4 Be7 28.Bxc7 Be6 29.Nf4 Bf7 30.Rd7 Re8 31.Ng5 Rh6 32.Be5+ 1-0 4.d4 ♘f6 5.♗c4 (2703)-Deslandes, P (2670) Saint John (open II) 45/17 1988 (7)]

18.Nxf5 Bxf5 19.Nd4 Bd7 20.f4 gxf4 21.Bxf4 Rg6



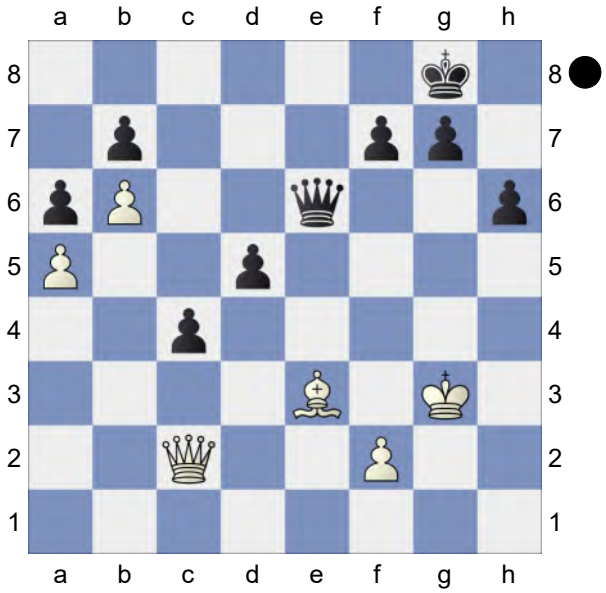
22.e6! Bxe6 23.Nxe6 fxe6 24.Bxc7 Rc8 25.Be5 Rd8 26.Rxd8+ Bxd8= Endgame. KRB-KRB **27.Bd4 a6 28.Bc5 Be7** Wards off Rf8+ **29.Bxe7 Kxe7** KR-KR **30.Rf4 Rg5 31.Kf2 Rb5 32.b3 Ra5 33.a4 Rc5 34.Rc4 Rf5+ 35.Ke3 Re5+ 36.Re4 Rg5 37.g4 hxg4 38.hxg4 Kf6 39.Rf4+ Ke7 40.Kf3 e5 41.Re4 Ke6 42.Re2 Rg7 43.Rg2 a5 44.Ke4** g5 would now be deadly. **44...Rg5 45.Kf3** Not much happened in this game. Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.01 (flawless)

½-½

293 **C65**
□ **Mamedov,Edgar** **2457**
■ **Makarian,Rudik** **2547**
Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

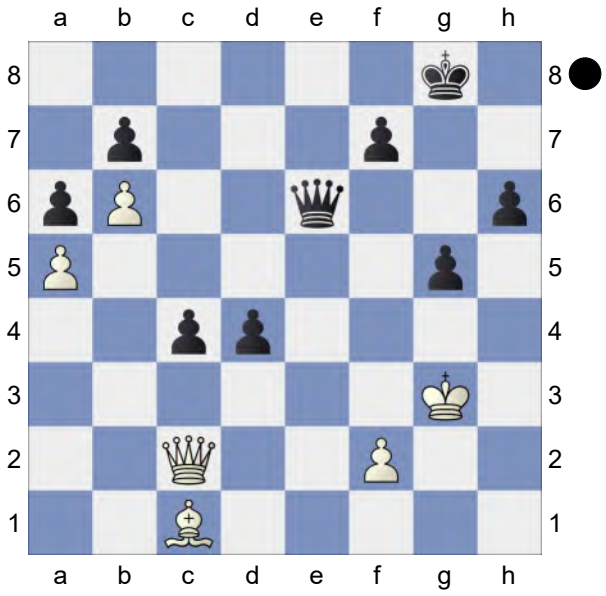
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.h3 Bb6 8.Re1 Ne7 9.d4** 9.d4 scores better than 9.Nbd2. 9. d4 punktet besser als 9.Sbd2. **9...Ng6** The position is equal. **10.Bf1 c6 11.Nbd2 Re8 12.a4**
[12.dxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Rxe5 14.Bd3 d5 15.Nf3 Re8 16.e5 Ne4 17.Bxe4 dxe4 18.Qxd8 Rxd8 19.Ng5 Bf5 20.Bf4 e3 21.Bxe3 Bxe3 22.Rxe3 Rd2 23.g4 Bg6 24.b4 a5 25.a3 axb4 26.cxb4 h6 1-0 Van Habberney,G (2648)-Vigneron (2482) Wichern op 5th 1999 (4.4)]
12...Be6N
[12...d5 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.exd5 Nxf3+ 15.Nxf3 Rxe1 16.Qxe1 Nxd5 17.a5 Bc7 18.Bg5 f6 19.Bd2 #11 29. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1,a-7...Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 c6]
[12...h6 13.Qc2 Be6 14.b4 a5 15.b5 Rc8 16.bxc6 bxc6 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 dxe5 19.Nc4 #10 29. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1,a-7...Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4 c6]
13.b4 a6 14.Bb2 h6N
[14...Qe7 0.77/19 14...a6-a5 0.27 15.c4 exd4 16.Nxd4 Qd8 17.Qc2 Nf4 1.30/18 *(17...c5± 0.68/17)* 18.N2f3± N6h5 1.77/18 *(18...Bd7± 1.29/18)* 19.Qd2 Black must now prevent g2-g4. Qd7 1.99/17 *(19...Ng6± 1.43/18 20.a5 Bc7)* 20.Kh2 1.17/17 *(20.Rad1+- 1.99/17)* 20...Ng6 1-0 Yudasin,L (2635)-Polgar, S (2495) Rishon Le Ziyyon 1996 (8)]
15.a5 Bc7 16.c4 exd4 17.Nxd4 c5! 18.Nxe6 Rxe6 19.Bc3 Qe7 1.19/19
[19...cxb4= 0.09/18 keeps the balance. 20.Bxb4 b6]
20.Qc2 0.22/18
[20.b5± 1.19/19]
20...Re8 0.65/19
[20...cxb4= 0.22/18 21.Bxb4 Ne5]
21.b5± Nh5 1.64/19
[21...Nxe4? 22.Nxe4 axb5 23.cxb5+-]
[21...axb5!± 0.60/18 22.cxb5 d5]
22.b6+- Bd8 23.g3 Qd7 1.99/20
[23...Ne5± 1.55/19 24.h4 Rg6]
24.Bg2 1.28/18
[24.Be2!+- 1.99/20 Nf6 25.Bd1]
24...Ngf4 2.37/21 **25.gxf4 Nxf4 26.Nf1?** 0.39/20
[26.Kh2+- 2.30/20]
26...Rg6!± 27.Ng3 Bh4? 3.23/19
[27...h5!= 0.26/20 and Black has nothing to worry.]
28.Re3 Nxh3+ 29.Kf1 1.13/21
[Better is 29.Kh2+- 1.71/19 Nf4 30.Bf1]
29...Nf4 1.82/20
[29...Qg4± 1.13/21]
30.Rf3+- Qg4 31.Rd1 0.74/20
[31.Re1+- 1.73/21]
31...Nxg2? 2.62/21
[31...Ree6 32.Re1±]
[31...h5± 0.74/20]
32.Kxg2 Rxe4 3.39/21
[32...Qxe4? 33.Qxe4 Rxe4 34.Rxd6 Bxg3 35.Rd8+ Kh7 36.fxg3+- *(36.Rxg3 Rxc4 37.Be1 Re4+-)*]
[⌓32...h5 2.26/19 33.Qd3 Rxe4]
33.Rdd3? 0.01/20
[33.Rxd6+- 3.39/21 Rxc4 34.Rxg6 Qxg6 35.Qe2]
33...Qe6 5.13/22

[33...Bxg3= 0.01/20 34.Rxg3 Qh5]
34.Qd1? 0.01/22 Active counter play!
[34.Rxd6!+- 5.13/22 Qxd6 35.Qxe4]
34...Rxc4= 35.Rde3 Really sharp!
35...Re4 36.Qd3? -1.74/22
[36.Rxe4= 0.01/21 and White is okay. Qxe4 37.Qd3 Qxd3 38.Rxd3]
36...d5-+ 37.Bd2 -2.48/20
[37.Kh2∓ -1.15/20 Bxg3+ 38.Rxg3]
37...c4 38.Qc2 -2.69/21
[38.Qe2∓ -1.54/20 Qc6 39.Kh2 *(39.Rxe4? dxe4 40.Re3 Bg5-+)*]
38...Bxg3 39.Rxg3 Rxe3 40.Bxe3 -2.03/21
[40.fxe3∓ -1.43/22 was necessary. Rxg3+ 41.Kxg3]
40...Rxg3+ 41.Kxg3

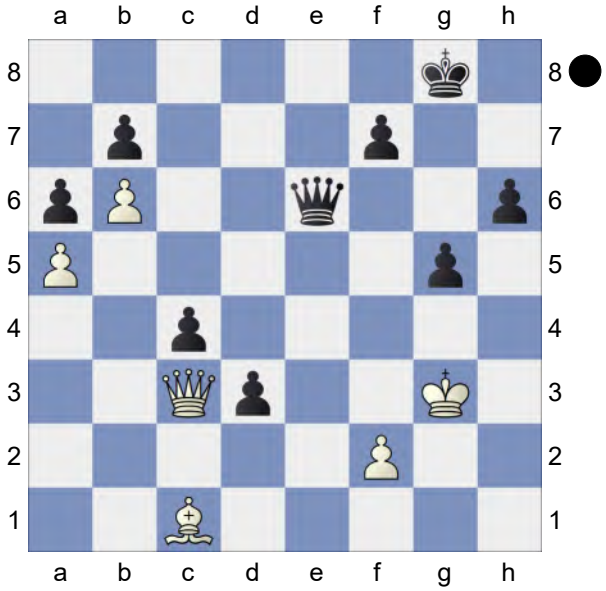


d4! 42.Bf4
[42.Bxd4? Qd6+ 43.Kg2 Qxd4-+ *(43...Qd5+? 44.Kg1-+)*]
42...g5 -2.62/19
[⌓42...h5 -1.97/21 43.f3 c3]
43.Bc1

(Diagram)



d3 -1.19/21
[43...h5!-+ -2.15/20 44.Bxg5 Qg4+ 45.Kh2 Qxg5 46.Qxc4 Qd8 *(46...Qxa5 47.Qc8+ Kg7 48.Qxb7=)*]
44.Qc3 -1.84/21
[44.Qd2∓ -1.19/21]

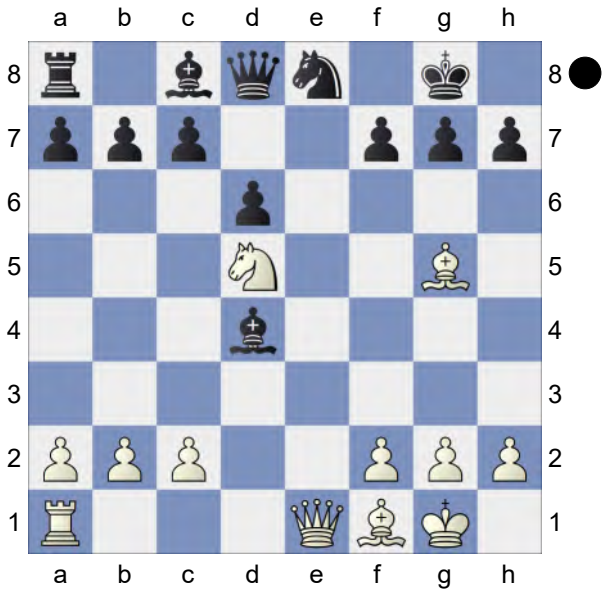


44...Qd6+? -0.01/21
[44...f6!-+ -1.84/21 White must now prevent ...Kg8-f7. 45.Bb2 h5]
45.f4!= Kf8? 15.07/20
[45...h5= -0.01/21]
46.Ba3 Pin. Weighted Error Value:

White=0.67/Black=0.78
[Less strong is 46.Qxc4 d2 47.Qc8+ Ke7 48.Qxb7+ Kf8 49.Bxd2 Qxd2±]
1-0

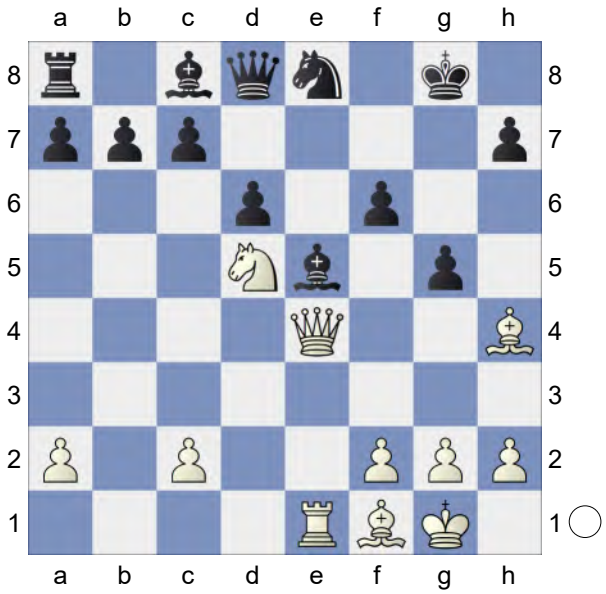
294 **C67**
□ **Miron,Lucian Costin** **2473**
■ **Parligras,Mircea Emilian** **2537**
ROM-chT Mamaia (2.16) 29.09.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4!** outshines the older 11.c3. erfolgreicher als das alte 11. c3. **11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8 13.Nc3** Black is weak on the light squares **13...Bxd4 14.Nd5 d6 15.Bg5**



Deflection, Back Rank. The position is equal. **15...f6 16.Bh4** And now Qe1-e4 would win. **16...g5 17.Qe4 Bxb2 18.Re1 Be5**

(Diagram)



19.f4⇄ White has counterplay **19...gxh4 20.fxe5 dxe5 21.Bd3! Kf8 22.Ne3 Qe7N**
[22...Qd4 seems wilder. 23.Qxh7 Be6 24.Bg6 h3 *(24...Rd8 25.Qh6+ Ke7 26.Qh7+ Kf8 27.h3 Qd2 28.Qxh4 Rd4 29.Qh8+ Bg8 30.Qh6+ Ng7 31.Rf1 Rf4 32.Rd1 Qxe3+ 33.Kh2 Rf3 34.Rd8+ Ke7 35.Qxg7+ Kxd8 36.Qf8+ Kd7 37.Be8+ Ke6 38.Qxg8+ Ke7 39.Qf7+* 1-0 Aranaz Murillo,A (2658)-Zamlutti Junior,R (2656) Toshkent 2022 *)*]
23.Qxh4 Be6 24.Bxh7 Rd8 25.Rf1 Rd4 26.Be4 Qa3N
[26...Qg7 27.h3 Ke7 ...Ne8-d6 is the strong threat. 28.c3 Ra4 29.c4 c6 30.Rf3 Kd8 31.Bf5 Bxf5 32.Nxf5 Qd7 ½-½ Sneddon,I (2360)-Wojcik,W (2309) EU-ch 2021 sf15 email]
27.Rxf6+ Nxf6 28.Qxf6+ Bf7 29.Qh8+! Bg8 30.Qf6+!
[30.Bxb7? Qxe3+ 31.Kh1 Qe1#]
30...Bf7 31.Qh8+! Bg8 32.Qf6+! Weighted Error Value: White=0.02 (flawless) /Black=0.02 (flawless)
[32.Bxb7? is a self mate. Qxe3+ 33.Kh1 Qe1#]

[But not 32.Qh6+ Ke8 33.h3 Qf8 *(33...Rxe4 34.Qg6+ Kd7 35.Qxe4±; 33...Qxa2 34.Qh5+ Kd7 35.Qxe5=; 33...Bxa2 34.Bg6+ Kd7 35.Bf5+ Ke8 36.Qh5+ Ke7 37.Qg5+ Ke8 38.Bg6+ Kd7 39.Qxe5=)* 34.Qg6+ Kd8 35.Qg5+ Kc8 36.Qxe5 Rd2∓]

½-½

295 **C67**

□ **Lou,Yiping** **2459**

■ **Zhao,Jun** **2535**

TCh-CHN Div A Finals (2.1) 04.12.2024

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** The main line 10...Re8 scores better than 10...Nf5. Die Hauptvariante 10...Te8 punktet besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bf4** White wants to play Bxd6. **11...Rxe1 12.Qxe1** Strongly threatening Bxd6. **12...Ne8** The position is equal. **13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 c6 15.Qe3N**

[15.a4 a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Ng7 18.Bh6 Be6 19.h3 Qd6 20.Qd2 Re8 21.Re1 Qd8 22.g4 Bc8 23.Rxe8+ Nxe8 24.Qf4 Qc7 25.Kg2 Qxf4 26.Bxf4 Be7 27.g5 Bd6 28.Ne5 Kf8 29.h4 Ke7 Molina,R (2835)-5.dc5 ♗c5 6.♗f4 (2693) Linares 2023 Inf87 [John Watson] 1-0 (51)]

15...Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 aiming for ...Re8. **18.Qg3 Ne4N**

[18...Re8 19.Rxe8+ Nxe8 20.Qe3 Bd8 21.Bh2 ½-½ Leoni,R (2269)-Permykov,A (2366) WC-2018-P-00004]

19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qb7

[29...e3!?]

30.Bc4 Qe7 31.h5 Bh7 32.Kg2 0.39/26

[⌓32.Ra1 0.70/25]

32...Rf8!± 33.Rb1 Qa7 1.19/24 Inhibits Rb8.

[33...Kh8± 0.54/26]

34.g5 0.51/26 &Bianco is much more active.

[White should try 34.Rb4!± 1.19/24]

34...hxg5 35.Qxg5 h6 would kill now. **35...Kh8! 36.h6 f6! 37.hxg7+→** White is up to no good. **37...Qxg7 38.Qxg7+ Kxg7** Endgame KRB-KRB **39.Kg3** Hoping for Rb6. **39...f5?** 4.56/20 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[39...Ra8± 0.61/28]

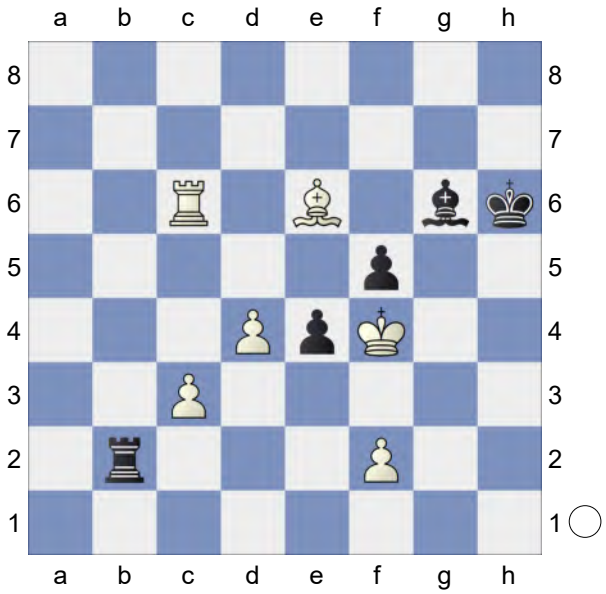
40.Kf4+- Rf6 41.Rb7+ Kh6? 5.72/20

[41...Kh8 3.37/20 42.d5 Rh6]

42.Rf7 Rd6 43.Re7

[Weaker is 43.Ke5 Rd8 44.Kf4 Bg6+-]

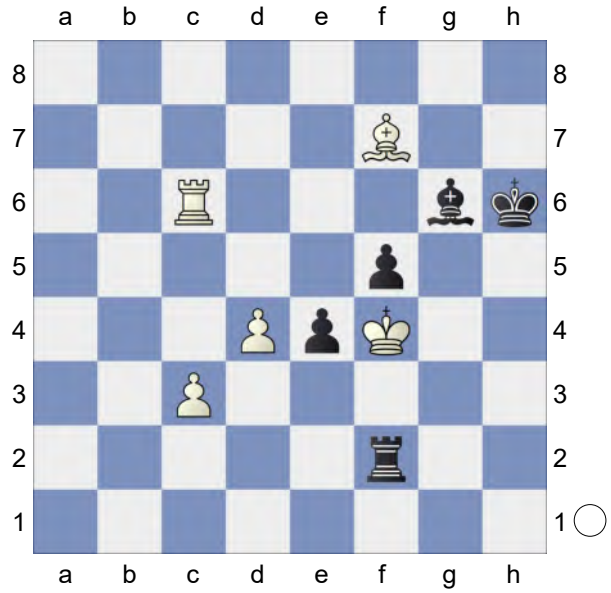
43...Bg6 44.Re6 Rd7 45.Rxc6 Rb7 46.Be6 Rb2



47.Bf7!

[And not 47.Bxf5 Rxf2+ 48.Kxe4 Rxf5=]

47...Rxf2+



48.Kg3! Rf3+ 49.Kg2 Kg5 50.Bxg6 KRB-KR

[Not 50.Rxg6+ Kf4 51.c4 Rc3+-]

50...Rd3 51.Kf2 Rd2+ 52.Ke3 White is clearly winning. **52...Rd3+ 53.Ke2 Rh3 54.d5 Rd3 55.c4 f4 56.Re6 f3+ 57.Ke1 Re3+ 58.Kf1** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.41

1-0

296 **C65**

□ **Zhao,Jun** **2619**

■ **Ma,Zhonghan** **2485**

CHN-chT Div-A Rapid (3.4) 08.09.2022

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4** Mekhitarian,K **1...e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Qe2**

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nc4 The position is equal. **8...Re8 9.Bd2 Bd6 10.h4 Nf8 11.h5 Ne6 12.0-0-0**

[12.Nfxe5 Nd4 13.Nxf7 Qd7∓ *(13...Kxf7?! 14.Qd1∓; 13...Nxc2+? 14.Kd1+-)*]

[12.Ncxe5 Bxe5 13.Nxe5 Nd4 14.Nxf7 Kxf7∓ *(14...Qf6∓; 14...Nxc2+? 15.Kd1+-)* 15.Qd1∓]

12...c5 13.g4N Eine interessante Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 13.Qf1 And now h5-h6! would win. f6 14.Nh4 Nd4 15.c3 Nc6! 16.Nf5 Bxf5 17.exf5 h6! 18.g4 Bf8 19.Qe2 ½-½ (60) Caruana,F (2787)-Karjakin,S (2769) Wijk aan Zee 2016 CBM 171 [Mekhitarian,K] Qd7 20.Be3 Rad8 21.Qc2 Kh7 22.Qb3 a6 23.Nd2 Na5 24.Qc2 Qd5 25.Kb1 Qxd3 26.Qxd3 Rxd3 27.Ne4 c4 28.b4 Nc6 29.Rxd3 cxd3 30.a4 Rd8 31.Rd1 Kg8 32.Kb2 Kf7 33.a5 b6 34.axb6 Caruana,F (2787)-Karjakin,S (2769) Wijk aan Zee 2016 CBM 171 [Mekhitarian,Krikor Sevag] ½-½ (60) cxb6 35.Ra1 d2 36.Nxd2 a5 37.b5 Na7 38.c4 Nc8 39.Ne4 Bb4 40.Kc2 Ke8 41.Rd1 Rxd1 42.Kxd1 Kd7 43.Kc2 Kc7 44.c5 a4 45.f3 bxc5 46.Nxc5 Bxc5 47.Bxc5 Nd6 48.b6+ Kc6 49.b7 Caruana,F (2786)-Gelfand,B (2751) Toshkent 2012 CBM 152 [Ftacnik,Lubomir] 1-0 (60)]

[13.Nfxe5?

A) 13...Nd4? 14.Qe3-+ *(14.Qf1 Bxe5∓)*;

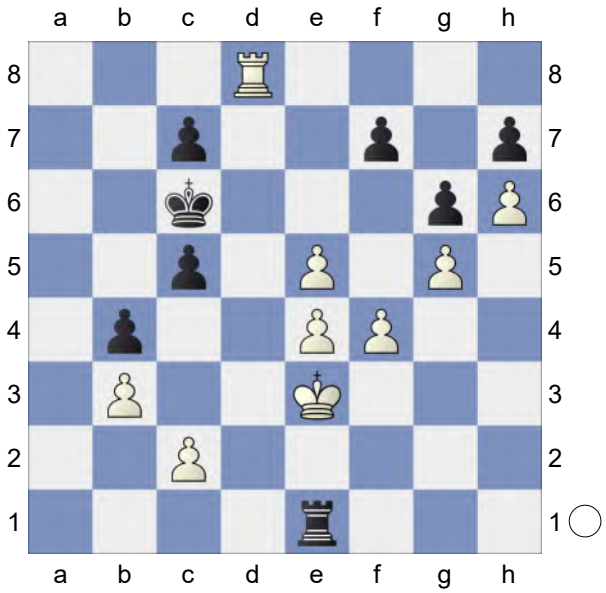
B) 13...Bxe5 14.Nxe5 Nd4-+]

13...Nf4 0.87/20

[13...b5± 0.35/18 14.Na5 *(14.Ncxe5? Bxe5 15.Nxe5 Nd4∓; 14.Nxd6 cxd6)* 14...Nd4 15.Nxd4 cxd4]

14.Bxf4± exf4 15.g5 0.81/18 &Bianco is more active. White is more active.

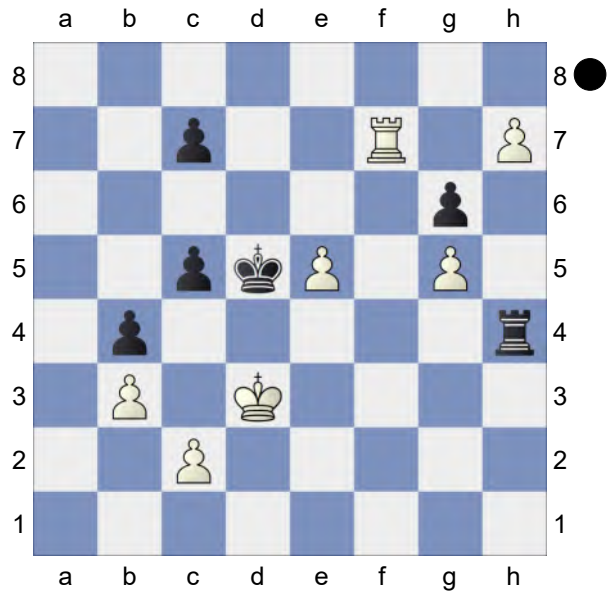
[⌓15.Nxd6 1.22/19 Qxd6 16.g5]
15...b5 1.65/18
[15...Bf8± 0.81/18]
16.Nxd6+- Qxd6 1.26/19
[⌓16...cxd6± 0.88/20 17.h6 *(17.Kb1 Re6)* 17...g6]
17.Rh4 Be6 1.60/20
[⌓17...Qa6 1.29/18]
[⌓17...Bb7 1.62/18 18.Qd2 Rad8 19.Rxf4 *(19.Qxf4 c4±)* 19...c4]
18.h6 g6 19.Qd2 b4 20.Qxf4
[20.Rxf4?! Bxa2 21.d4 cxd4±]
20...Qxf4+ 21.Rxf4 a5 22.b3 a4 23.Kd2? -1.51/21
[23.Kb2± 1.58/19 stays on course.]
23...axb3∓ 24.axb3 Ra2 25.Rb1 Kf8 26.Rf6 Bg4 27.Nh2 Bd7 28.Nf1 Re6 29.Rxe6 Bxe6+- Endgame KRB-KRN Endgame KRB-KRN. White is a pawn up. **30.Ne3 Ke7 31.e5** 1.88/25
[31.f4 f6 32.gxf6+ Kxf6]
[⌓31.Ke2 3.49/23]
31...Kd7 2.55/25
[31...c6 1.88/25 32.f4 Kd7]
32.Ke2 Kc6 33.Kf3 Ra8 34.Ke4 Rd8 35.Ra1 Rd4+ 36.Kf3 Rd8 37.Kg3 Kb6 38.Kf3? 0.01/23
[Better is 38.Ra2+- 2.69/23]
[38.f4+- 3.31/25]
38...Kc6!= 39.Ke2 Kb6 40.f4 Kc6 41.Nf1 Bd5 42.Ke3 Kb6 43.Nd2 Re8 3.51/25
[⌓43...Be6 2.43/25 44.Ne4 Rh8]
44.Ra4 Rd8 45.Ra1? 0.01/22
[White should try 45.Ne4+- 2.95/27]
[45.Ra2+- 3.00/24]
45...Re8! 46.Nf1? -0.01/21
[46.Nc4++- 3.44/23 Kc6 47.Nd2]
46...Be6? 2.51/24
[46...Rd8!= -0.01/21 and Black is okay.]
47.Ng3+- Bd5 White should try **48.Ne4+-** 3.50/23 **Bxe4** 4.61/22
[⌓48...Rh8 3.04/22 49.Nf6 Bb7]
49.dxe4+- aiming for Rd1. KR-KR KR-KR. White is a pawn up.
[49.Kxe4 Rd8+- 50.f5 Rd4+ 51.Kf3 Rd5+-]
49...Kb5 5.47/20
[49...c4 3.72/21 was worth a try. 50.Rd1 cxb3 51.cxb3 Kc6]
50.Rd1 Kc6 51.Rd5 Ra8 52.Kd2 Ra1? 7.44/21
[⌓52...Ra2 3.34/22 53.Rd8 *(53.Rd3 Ra8)* 53...c4]
53.Rd8 Rf1 54.Ke3? 2.26/21
[54.f5 9.33/23 gxf5 55.e6 fxe6 56.g6 hxg6 57.h7]
54...Re1+ Not **55.Kf3 Rf1+ 56.Ke3?** -0.01/17
[56.Kg3+- 2.14/19 c4+-]
[56.Kg4+- 3.05/20]
56...Re1+!=



57.Kf2!
[Don't play 57.Kf3?! c4 58.Rb8 *(58.bxc4 Rf1+ 59.Ke2 Rxf4+-)* 58...Rf1+ 59.Ke3 Re1+ 60.Kd4 Rf1 61.Kxc4 Rxf4]
57...Rxe4 58.Kf3 Re1 59.Rh8 Rf1+ 60.Ke4 Re1+ 61.Kd3 Rf1 62.Rxh7 Rxf4 63.Rg7? 0.92/25

[63.e6+- 4.53/21 has better winning chances. fxe6 64.Rg7]

63...Kd5± 64.h7 Rh4 65.Rxf7



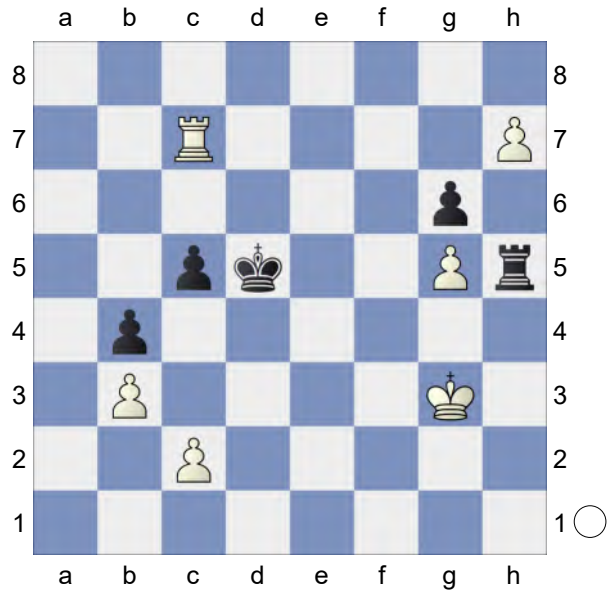
Kxe5 66.Rxc7 Kd5 67.Ke3 Rh3+? 2.20/25

[67...Rh1± 1.39/26 was necessary. 68.Re7 Kd6]

[67...Kd6± 1.27/25 68.Rg7 Ke5 69.Rxg6 Rxh7]

68.Kf4+- Strongly threatening Rd7+.

68...Rh4+ 69.Kg3 Rh5



70.Kg4! Rh1 71.Rg7 Kd4? 5.39/25

[71...Ke4 2.59/25 was worth a try. 72.Re7+ *(72.Rxg6 Rg1+ 73.Kh4 Rh1+ 74.Kg3 Rxh7+-)* 72...Kd5 *(72...Kd4)*]

72.Rxg6 White is clearly winning.

72...Rxh7 73.Rh6 Prevents Rh2.

73...Rg7 74.Rh2 c4 75.bxc4 Kxc4 8.36/24

[⌓75...Ke5 4.98/19 76.Rd2 Rc7 77.Re2+ *(77.Rd5+ Ke6+-)* 77...Kd4]

76.Rg2 Threatens to win with Kf5.

76...Kc3 9.76/27

[⌓76...Kd5 4.95/23 77.Rf2 Rg8]

77.Kf5 Rf7+ 78.Ke6 Ra7 79.g6 Ra6+ 80.Kf5 Ra5+ 81.Kf4 Ra8 82.Kg5 Ra5+ 83.Kh6 Hoping for g7. **83...Ra6 84.Kh7 Ra7+ 85.g7** Weighted Error Value: White=0.67/Black=0.24 (precise) Weighted Error Value: White=0.61/Black=0.40

1-0

297 **C67**

□ **Divya,Deshmukh** **2470**

■ **Dronavalli,Harika** **2483**

Nikosia WGP 2025 (1.3) 15.03.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 8.Nf3 0-0 9.d4 d5** White has an edge. **10.c3 Bd6 11.Nbd2**

[11.Bd3 Nce7 12.Nbd2 c6 13.Nf1 Ng6 14.Qc2 Nfh4 15.Nxh4 Qxh4 16.g3 Qd8 17.Ne3 Re8 18.Bd2 Nf8 19.Nf5 Bc7 20.Rxe8 Qxe8 21.Re1 Be6 22.Qc1 f6 23.Qd1 Qd7 24.Qf3 Re8 25.h4 Bf7 Molina,R (2826)-Buchicchio,G (2800) B) 8...Rb8 2010 World Championship [Nastasio, Davide] ½-½ (68)]

[11.Na3 Bxa3 12.bxa3 Nce7 13.Bg5 f6 14.Bf4 Ng6 15.Bg3 c6 16.Bd3 Rf7 17.Qc2 Nxg3 18.hxg3 Nf8 19.Rab1 g6 20.c4 Be6 21.c5 Qa5 22.Re3 Rd8 23.Rbe1 Bc8 24.Re8 Qc7 25.R8e3 Rdd7 Simonian, H (2431)-Bruzon Batista,L (2610) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (35)]

11...Nce7 12.Ne5N

[12.Qc2 c6 13.Bd3 g6 14.Nf1 f6 15.h3 Rf7 16.Bd2 Bd7 17.Re2 c5 18.dxc5 Bxc5 19.Bf4 Rc8 20.Rae1 g5 21.Ng3 Nxg3 22.Bxg3 a5 23.Qd2 a4 24.b4 axb3 25.axb3 Ng6 26.h4 gxh4 Sanjuan Garcia,M (2649)-Deslandes,P (2817) Deutschland 80/340 2017 CBM 195 [Mason, BCM 1903 p40 Chess in Manchester] 1-0 (42)]

12...f6 13.Nd3 c6 14.g3 Ng6 15.Bg2 Re8 16.Rxe8+ Qxe8 17.Nf1 Be6 18.a4 a5 19.Bd2 Qf7 20.Qe2 Re8 21.Re1 Bd7 22.Qd1 Rxe1 23.Nxe1 Bc7 24.Ne3 Nxe3 25.Bxe3 Bf5 26.Nf3 Ne7 27.Qc1 Nc8 28.Bf4 Nd6 29.Nd2 g5 30.Bxd6 Bxd6 31.c4 Be6! 32.c5 Bc7 33.Qc3 Qe8 34.Nb3 Qd8 35.Bf1 Kg7 36.Bd3 Bh3 37.Qe1 h5 38.Qe2 Bg4 39.f3 -0.55/19

[White should play 39.Qc2= -0.01/22]

39...Bd7∓ 40.Bc2 Qe8 -0.01/23

[40...Kf7∓ -0.74/20]

41.Qxe8!= The position is equal. **41...Bxe8** Endgame KBB-KBN **42.Bf5!** Inhibits Bd7. **42...Kf8 43.Kf2 Ke7 44.h3 b6 45.cxb6 Bxb6 46.Nc5 Kd6 47.Nb7+ Kc7! 48.Nc5 Kd6 49.Nb7+ Kc7! 50.Nc5 Kd6** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.06 (flawless)

½-½

298 **C65**

□ **Uskov,Artem** **2440**

■ **Ponkratov,Pavel** **2555**

Moscow Dvoretsky Memorial (4.2)

[Kitty Kat]

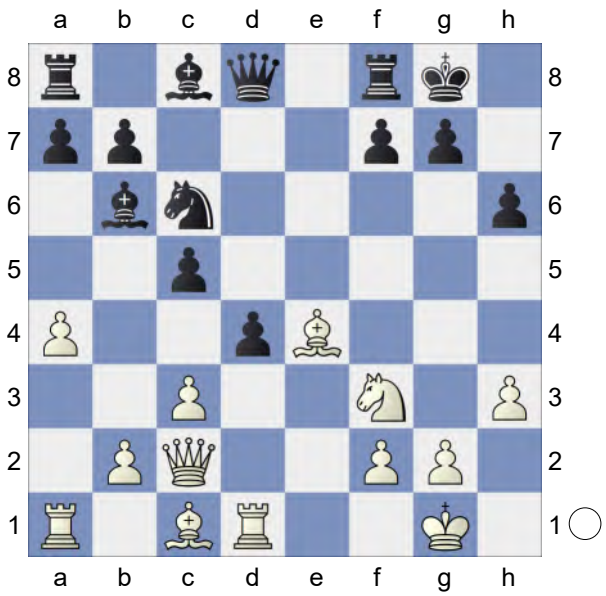
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Carlsen, Magnus: 'Magnus Carlsen: 'After losing the 4th game in a terrible way I was essentially in a must-win situation in this game." **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.h3 Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.Bd3 d5** The position is equal. **10.Nbd2 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 exd4 13.Qc2 h6 14.a4 c5!?N** 0.57/20 New and interesting. Theoretisch interessant.

[14...c6 15.Rd1 Nd5 16.Nxd4 Re8 17.a5 Bxa5 18.Nf3 c3-c4 would now be deadly. b5! 19.Nd4 Bc7 1.12/20 *(19...Bb7!=* -0.10/20 keeps the balance. *)* 20.Nxc6± Qd6 1-0 Carlsen, M (2863)-Kramnik,V (2783) Gashimov Memorial 2nd 2015 (7) 21.g3 Bb7 22.Bf4 Qxc6 23.Bxd5 Re1+ 24.Kh2 Qxd5 25.Rxd5 Rxa1 26.Rd1 Rxd1 27.Qxd1 Rd8 28.Qe2 Bb6 29.Be3 Bxe3 30.Qxe3 Rd1 31.g4 Bc6 32.Qc5 Bd7 33.Qxa7 Rd2 34.Kg3 Rd3+ 35.Kf4 Kh7 1-0 Carlsen,M (2693)-Aronian,L (2759) (m/5) 100/399 2007 36.Qb7 Rd2 37.Ke3 Rd6 38.f4 g6 39.Qb8 Rd5 40.Ke4 Be6 41.Qb7 Rc5 42.Kd4 Rc4+ 43.Ke5 b4 44.cxb4 Rc2 45.Kf6 Rxb2 46.Qb8 Rf2 47.f5 gxf5 48.Qg3 Rf1 49.g5 1-0 Molina,R (2863)-Hantel,T (2783) GER CupT sf Erfurt 2004 (7)]

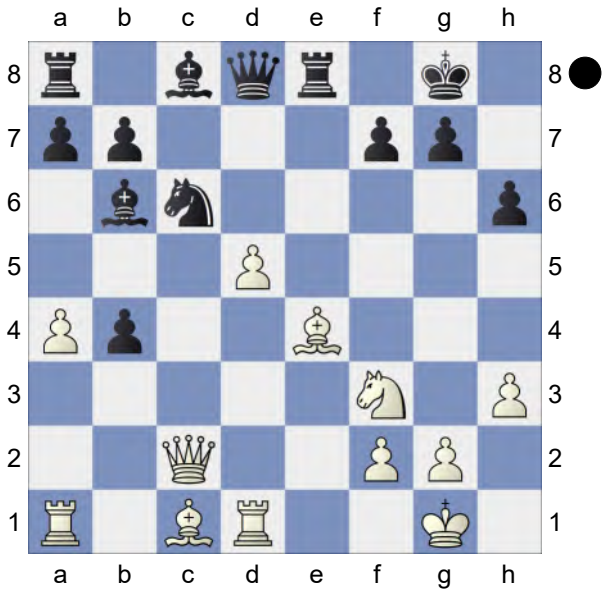
[14...Nc6= 0.04/19]

15.Rd1 Nc6

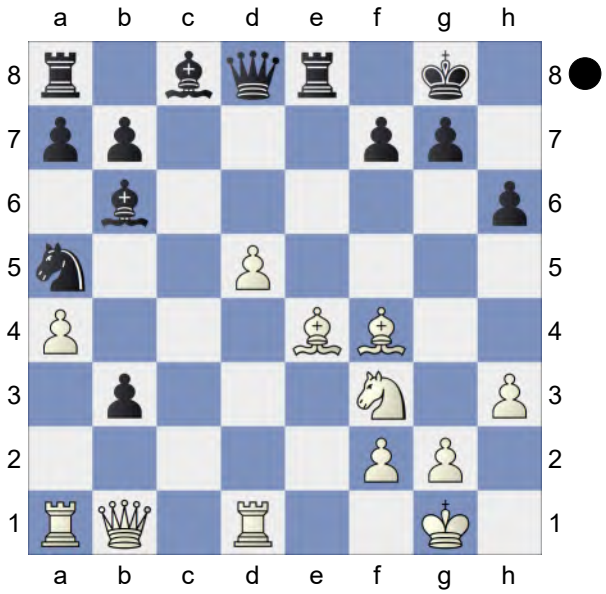
(Diagram)



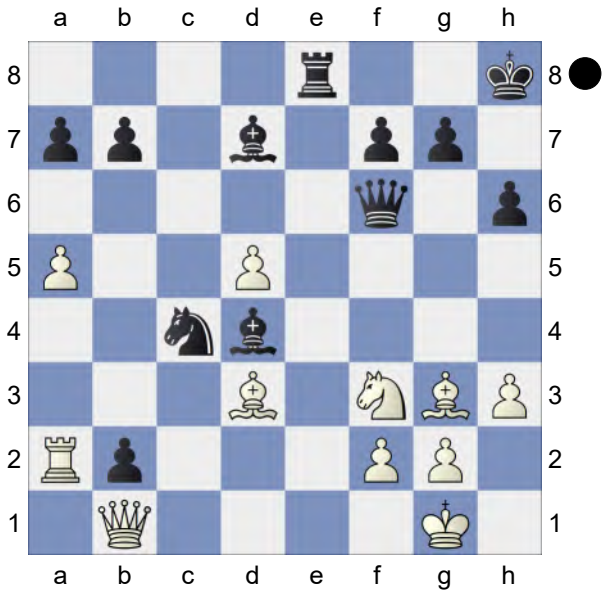
16.b4! 0.01/19 **cxb4= 17.cxd4 Re8!**
[17...Nxd4? 18.Nxd4 Bxd4 19.Bb2+-]
18.d5 -0.91/19
[18.Bb2= -0.30/19]



18...b3 0.25/21 **19.Qb1** -0.77/19
[19.Bh7+= 0.25/21 Kh8 20.Qxb3]
19...Na5
[19...Qd6 with more complications. 20.Bb2 Na5 21.Re1 Kh8]
20.Bf4? -2.20/20
[White should try 20.Bb2∓ -0.66/17]

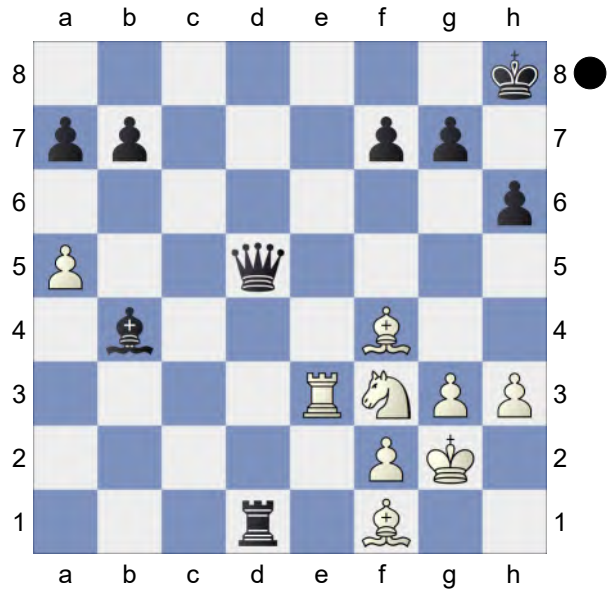


Dodges Qd8-d6. This move loses the game for White. **20...Qf6!-+ 21.Bg3**
[21.Bh7+ Kh8 22.Bd2 g6 23.Bxg6 Qxg6-+]
21...Bd7 22.Re1 -2.71/19
[22.d6 -1.87/17]
22...b2 23.Ra2 Nc4 24.a5 Bd4
[24...Bxa5 25.Rxa5 Nxa5 26.Ne5∓]
[24...Nxa5 25.Rxb2 Rxe4 26.Rxe4=]
25.Bh7+ Kh8 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.Bd3



Bc3 28.Bxc4 Bf5 29.Rxb2 Bxb1

30.Rxb1 Rc8
[30...Bxa5 31.Rxb7 Qc3 32.Bb5=]
31.Bd3 Wards off Qf6-f5 **31...Rd8**
[31...Bxa5 32.Rxb7 Qc3 33.Bf5∓]
32.Bc4 -3.99/21
[32.Rxb7 -1.93/21 Rxd5 33.Bc4]
32...Qe7 And now ...Qe7-e4! would win.
[32...Bxa5 33.Rxb7 Qc3 34.Ne5∓]
33.Rb3 Bb4
[33...Bxa5 34.d6 Rxd6 35.Bxd6 Qxd6 36.Rxb7-+]
34.Be5? -5.60/19
[34.Re3 -3.42/18 keeps fighting. Qc5 35.Ne5]
34...Rc8 Black is clearly winning. **35.Bf1 Rc1 36.Re3 Qd7**
[36...Bxa5? too greedy. 37.Bxg7+ Kxg7 38.Rxe7+-]
37.Bf4 Rd1
[37...Qxd5 38.Re8+ Kh7 39.Bxc1∓]
38.g3 Qxd5 39.Kg2



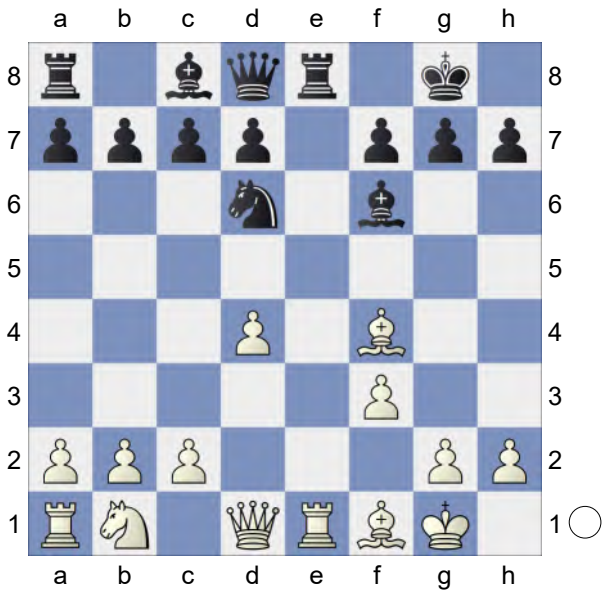
Rxf1! Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.18 (very precise)
0-1

299 **C67**
□ **Perunovic,Milos** **2525**
■ **Stankovic,Milos** **2466**
SRB-chT Premier (6.3) 02.10.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Bf4!** is currently scoring better than 11.c3. wohl besser als 11.c3.
11...Ne4N 0.63/18
[11...Rxe1= 0.13/19 12.Qxe1
A) 12...Ne8 13.c3 d5 14.Nd2 *(14.Bd3 g6 15.Nd2 Ng7 16.Qe2 Bf5 17.Re1 Bxd3 18.Qxd3 Ne6 19.Be5 Bxe5 20.Rxe5 c6 21.Nf3 Qd7 22.g3 Re8 23.h4 f6 24.Re3 Ng7 25.Qe2 Rxe3 26.Qxe3 Nf5 27.Qe2 Kf7 28.Ne1 Qe6* ½-½ Bogilov (2400)-Van der Griendt,J (2512) 4.e3 f5 5.g4 (4)*)* 14...c6 15.a4 *(15.Qe3 Bf5 16.Re1 Nd6 17.h3 Qd7 18.Qg3 Ne4 19.Nxe4 dxe4 20.Be5 Bxe5 21.Qxe5 Re8 22.Qf4 Bg6 23.Bc4 h6 24.g4 b5 25.Bb3 a5 26.a3 b4 27.axb4 axb4 28.h4 bxc3 29.bxc3 Qb7* 1-0 Lou,Y (2459)-Zhao,J (2535) TCh-CHN Div A Finals 2024 (2.1) *)* 15...a5 16.Bd3 g6 17.Nf3 Nd6 18.Qe3 Bg4 19.Re1 Qf8 20.h3 Bd7 21.g4 Re8 22.Ne5 Be6 23.Qg3 g5 24.Bc1 Bd8 25.Nf3 f6 26.h4 h6 27.hxg5 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2859)-So,W (2760) Meltwater CCT Finals 2022 (1.1);
B) 12...Bxd4
B1) 13.Nc3 Ne8 14.Nd5 c6 *(14...d6 15.Bg5 f6 16.Bh4 Bxb2 17.Rd1 c6 18.Ne7+ Kh8 19.Qe4 Be5 20.Bd3 g6*

21.Nxc8 Rxc8 22.Rb1 Qd7 23.f4 f5 24.Qb4 Bf6 25.Bxf6+ Nxf6 26.Qxb7 Rc7 27.Qb2 Kg7 28.Re1 Qf7 29.Qd4 0-1 13.♕c2 ♘e5 14. ♗e5_21361 (2601)-4.c3 ♘f6 5.e5/6...f5_42692 (2702) Budapest FS09 GM 2023 (2.1))
15.Ne7+ Kf8 16.Nxc8 Qf6 17.Bg3 Rxc8 18.Qb4+ d6 19.Qxb7 Rc7 20.Qb8 Bxb2 21.Bxd6+ Qxd6 22.Qxb2 Re7 23.Rb1 Nf6 24.Qc3 Ne4 25.Qf3 g6 26.Rd1 Qe5 27.a3 Kg7 ½-½ Robson,R (2702)-Dominguez Perez,L (2743) Berlin (m/3-blitz) 156/122 2023;
B2) 13.Bxd6 cxd6]

12.f3± Nd6

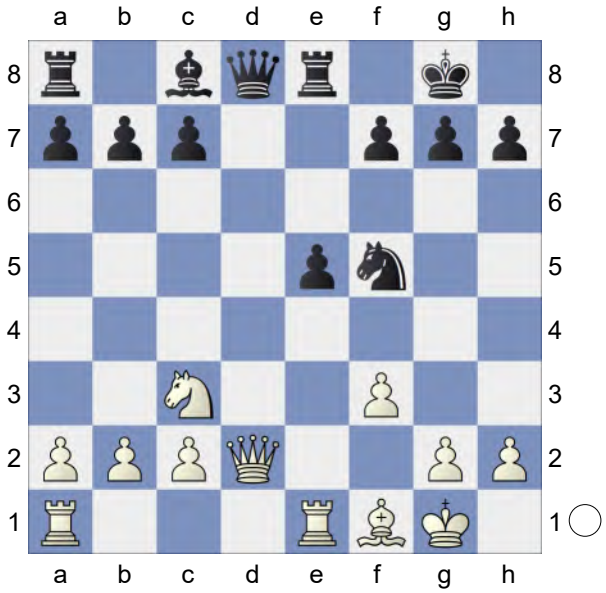


White must now prevent ...Re8xe1.

13.Be5N

[Vorgänger: 13.Nc3 -0.23/21 13.c2-c3 0.37 Rxe1 14.Qxe1 Bxd4+ 15.Kh1 Bxc3 0.23/22 *(⌓15...Ne8! -0.28/19)* 16.Qxc3= and Ra1-e1 would now be decisive b6 17.Bxd6 cxd6 18.Qd4 Qe7 19.Rd1 ½-½ Pavlidis,A (2463)-Mastrovasilis,A (2500) GRE-ch 62nd Athens 2012 (5)]

13...Bxe5 14.dxe5 Nf5 15.Nc3 d6 16.Qd2 dxe5



17.Rxe5! Back Rank **17...Be6 18.Qf2 Qd4 19.Rae1 Qxf2+ 20.Kxf2 Nd6 21.h4 Kf8 22.g4 Bd7 23.Bd3 Rxe5 24.Rxe5 h6 25.Ne4** Weighted Error Value: White=0.06 (flawless) /Black=0.08 (flawless)
½-½

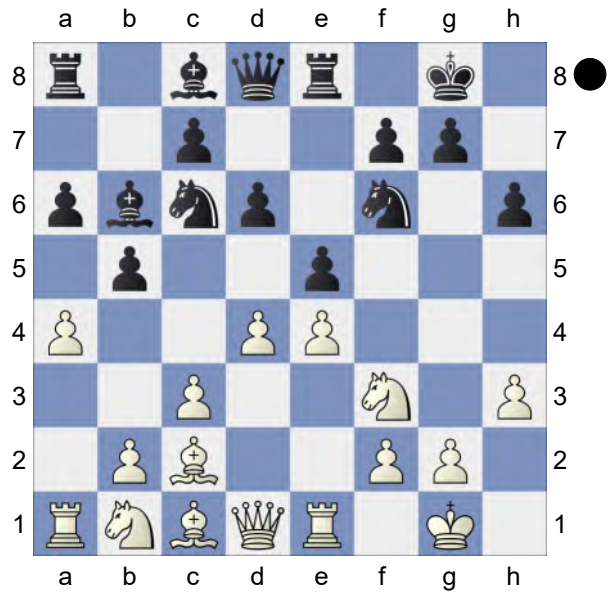
300 **C65**
□ **Gilfanov,Marat I** **2391**
■ **Malakhov,Vladimir** **2642**
Moscow Dvoretsky Memorial Rapid (6.1)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 Re8 7.Re1 h6!?** An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante. **8.h3** The position is equal. **8...a6 9.Ba4 b5 10.Bc2 d6 11.d4N**

[11.a4 b4 *(11...Rb8 12.Nbd2 b4 13.a5 Bd7 14.Nc4 Ba7 15.Bd2 bxc3*

16.bxc3 Rb5 17.Ba4 Rb7 18.Nh4 #7 30. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1 -7...h6*)* 12.d4 Ba7 13.d5 #4 30. Anti-Berlin 6...d6 7.Re1 -7...h6]

11...Bb6 12.a4

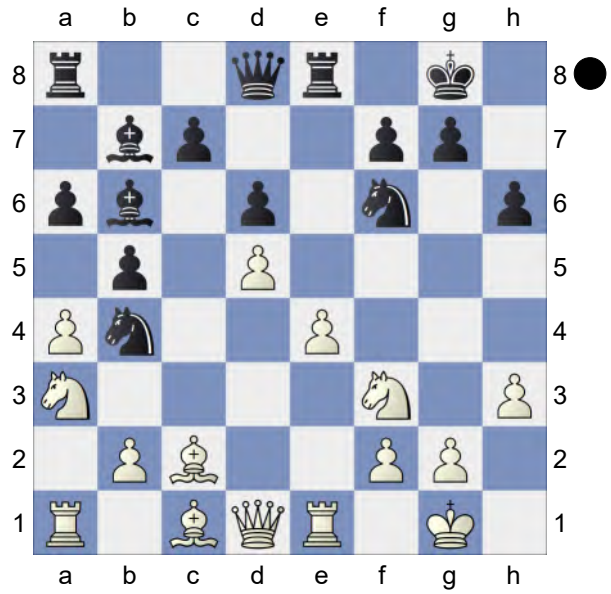


Threatens to win with axb5. **12...Bb7**

[12...Bd7 seems wilder. 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nbd2 Nxf3+ 15.Qxf3 bxa4 16.Nc4 Re6]

13.dxe5N -0.58/19

[13.Na3 -1.25/19 13.d4-d5 0.01 exd4 14.cxd4 Nb4 15.d5



Nxc2 -0.96/21 *(⌓15...c6!* -1.42/19 *16.dxc6 Bxc6)* 16.Qxc2∓ Qd7 -0.35/20 *(16...Qe7∓* -0.94/20 *17.Be3 Qxe4 18.Qxe4 Rxe4 19.Bxb6 Rxe1+ 20.Rxe1 cxb6 21.axb5 axb5 22.Nxb5 Bxd5)* 17.Bd2 -0.71/17 *(17.b4∓* -0.35/20 *)* 17...Re7 0.09/21 *(*Black should try *17...c6∓* -0.71/17 *18.Bc3 cxd5 19.Bxf6 gxf6 20.exd5 Bxd5)* 18.Bc3= Threatens to win with a4xb5. Nh5 19.axb5 0.02/18 *(19.Nh4±* 0.41/20 *)* 19...axb5 0-1 Toncheva,N (2301)-Myers,D (2029) Titled Tuesday intern op 10th Sep Late blitz 2024 (6)]

[White should try 13.axb5= -0.03/19 axb5 14.Rxa8 Qxa8 15.d5]

13...Nxe5∓

[13...dxe5 14.Qxd8 Raxd8 15.b4=]

14.Nxe5 -0.89/30

[14.Nbd2!∓ -0.50/26]

14...Rxe5∓

[14...dxe5?! 15.Qe2= *(15.Qf3=)*]

15.Be3 Bxe3

[15...Bxe4?! 16.Bxe4 Nxe4 *(16...Rxe4 17.Bxb6 cxb6 18.axb5=)* 17.Bxb6 cxb6 18.axb5∓]

16.Rxe3 Nxe4 17.Qe2 -1.74/24

[17.f3∓ -0.96/25 Nc5 18.Rxe5 dxe5 19.Qxd8+ Rxd8 20.axb5 axb5 21.Ra5]

17...Qe8-+ Black is more active. **18.Na3** -1.86/27

[18.axb5∓ -1.49/26 was called for. axb5 19.Rxa8 Bxa8 20.Nd2 Nxd2 21.Rxe5 Qxe5 22.Qxd2]

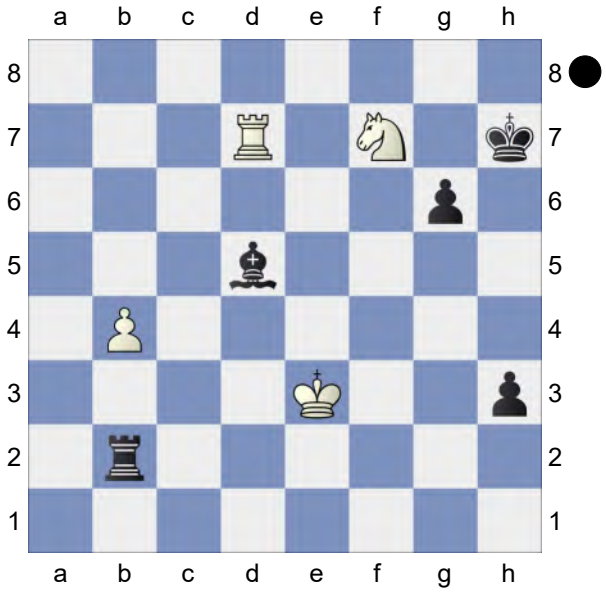
[18.Qd3∓ -1.32/20]

18...Qc6 -1.33/22

[18...bxa4 19.Nc4 Re6 20.Bxa4∓ *(20.Rxa4∓)*]

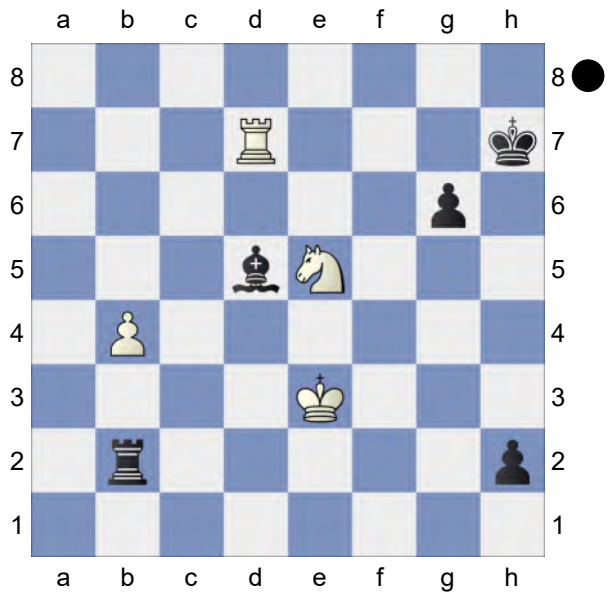
[18...Ng3-+ -1.80/22 19.Qd3 Rxe3 20.Qh7+ Kf8 21.Qh8+ Ke7 22.Qxe8+ Rxe8 23.fxe3 bxa4 24.Bxa4 Rb8]

19.axb5 axb5 20.Qf3 -2.03/25
[20.Bxe4∓ -1.52/26 Rxe4 21.Rxe4 Qxe4 22.Qxe4 Bxe4 23.Rd1]
20...Nc5→ Hoping for ...Qxf3. Black is out for blood. **21.Rxe5 dxe5**
[21...Qxf3 22.gxf3 dxe5 23.Re1∓]
22.Qg3 e4 -0.95/26
[22...Na4-+ -2.05/21 23.Bxa4 bxa4 *(23...Rxa4 24.Re1∓)*]
23.Rd1∓ Re8 24.Qe3 -2.22/19 Loses the game.
[24.Rd2∓ -0.94/24]
[⌓24.Rd4 -0.89/18]
24...Nd3!-+ 25.b4 -2.56/18
[⌓25.Bb3 -1.88/18]
25...Re6
[25...Qxc3? 26.Rxd3 *(26.Nxb5? Qxc2 27.Rd2 Qc4-+)* 26...exd3 27.Qxe8+ Kh7 28.Qe3 *(28.Nxb5? Qa1+-+)* 28...Qa1+ 29.Bb1+-]
26.Kh2 -3.08/23
[⌓26.Rd2 -1.79/19]
26...Rg6-+
[26...Qxc3 27.Bxd3 exd3 *(27...Qxa3 28.Bxe4 Qa8 29.Bxb7∓)* 28.Qxd3 Qe5+ *(28...Qxb4? 29.Nxb5 Rg6 30.g3-+)* 29.Qg3 Qxg3+ 30.Kxg3-+]
27.g3 Qxc3 28.Bxd3 exd3
[Less strong is 28...Qxa3? 29.Bxe4 Qxe3 30.Rd8+ Kh7 31.Bxg6+ *(31.fxe3? loses. perishes. Bxe4 32.Rd7 Rc6-+)* 31...Kxg6 32.fxe3+-]
29.Qxd3 Qc6
[Don't play 29...Qxb4 30.Qxb5 Qe4 *(30...Qxa3 31.Qxb7 Rf6 32.Kg1∓)* 31.Qf1-+]
30.Rg1 -6.03/25 Against Qg2+ Against Qc6-g2+
[30.f3 -3.16/22]
30...Rf6 31.Qd8+ Kh7 32.Qd3+ g6 33.Qe3 Qf3 34.Qxf3 Rxf3 Endgame KRB-KRN Endgame KRB-KRN. Black is a pawn up.
[Not 34...Bxf3? 35.Re1∓]
35.Ra1 Rxf2+ 36.Kg1 Rg2+ 37.Kf1 Rxg3 38.Nxb5 Rxh3 39.Ra7 Bd5 40.Nxc7 Bc4+ 41.Kf2 Rb3 42.Rb7 h5 43.Ne8 h4 44.Nd6 Rb2+ 45.Ke3 Bd5 46.Rd7 h3 (→ ...h2) aiming for ...h3-h2!.
[46...Rxb4 47.Nxf7 Rb3+ 48.Kf4 Rf3+ 49.Kg4 Be6+ *(49...Rxf7 50.Rxd5 h3 51.Kxh3=; 49...Bxf7 50.Kxf3 Kg7 51.Kg4=)* 50.Kxf3-+]
47.Nxf7



h2! 48.Ne5+
[48.Nd6+ Kh8]

(Diagram)



48...Kg8! 49.Rd8+ Kg7 50.Rd7+ Kf8 -3.47/26

[⌓50...Kf6 -7.88/26 51.Ng4+ Ke6]

51.Nxg6+ Ke8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/Black=0.13 (very precise) Weighted Error Value: White=0.50/Black=0.14 (very precise)

0-1

301 **C65**

□ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2548**

■ **Badelka,Olga** **2429**

Nikosia WGP 2025 (6.3) 21.03.2025

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.Bg5 h6 7.Bh4 Be7 8.Bg3**

[8.Nbd2 d6 9.Nf1 Nb8 10.Ne3 Ng4 11.Bg3 Nxe3 12.fxe3 Nd7 13.d4 Nf6 14.Bd3 Ng4 15.Qe2 Bg5 16.dxe5 dxe5 17.Bxe5 Bh4+ 18.g3 Nxe5 19.Nxe5 Bf6 20.Nf3 Qe7 21.0-0-0 c6 22.Nd4 a6 Vit Spelar Sgf3 (2714)-Molina,R (2821) Harare 2011 Telechess CBM 89 [Bottlik, Ivan] (60)]

8...d6 9.0-0 Nh7N

[9...Bd7

A) 10.h3 Nh7 *(10...Nh5 11.Bh2 g6 12.Nbd2 Bg5 13.Re1 Bf4 14.Nf1 Bxh2+ 15.Kxh2 a6 16.Ba4 Nf4 17.d4 Re8 18.Bc2 Qc8 19.Ng1 Na5 20.Ne3 c5 21.dxc5 dxc5 22.g3 Nh5 23.Nd5 Qd8 24.Qd2 Kg7 25.Rad1* 5.dc5 Bc5 6. Bf4 (2629) -Chiong,L (2607) St Petersburg 2018 CBM 169 Extra [Dragan Solak] ½-½ (41) *)* 11.Nbd2 Ng5 12.Re1 Nxf3+ 13.Nxf3 Vachier Lagrave,M (2795)-Malakhov,V (2712) France 133/(126) 2017 [Stamenkovic,Zoran];

B) 10.Re1 Nh5 11.Nbd2 Nxg3 12.hxg3 Bf6 13.Nf1 g6 14.Ba4 h5 Bacrot,E (2696)-Bok,B (2598) Minsk 133/(126) 2017 [Stamenkovic, Zoran]]

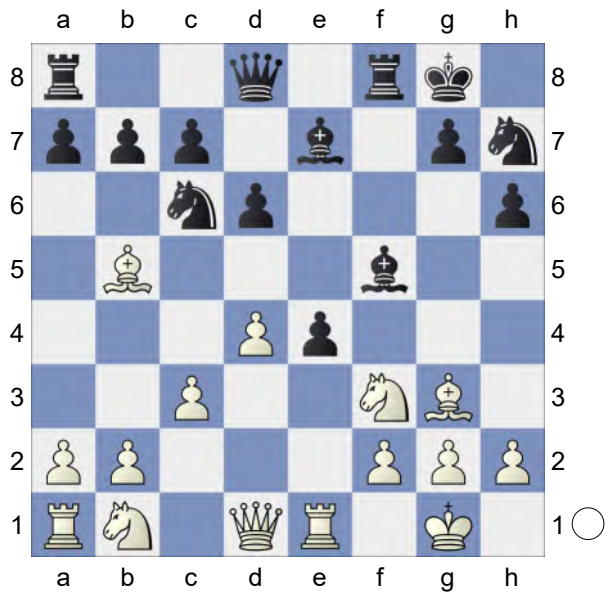
[9...a6 10.Ba4 Re8 11.Nbd2 Bf8 12.h3 b5 13.Bc2 Bb7 14.Re1 g6 15.a4 Bg7 16.b4 Nh5 17.Bb3 Qd7 18.Bh2 Kh7 19.Nf1 Nd8 20.Ne3 Ne6 21.Nd5 Rad8 22.axb5 axb5 23.Ra7 c6 24.g4 Modestov,B (2669)-Moen,A (2627) Pula 2021 Prepare to Attack [Kotov: Erbe II, 58] ½-½ (49)]

10.Re1 f5 0.50/20

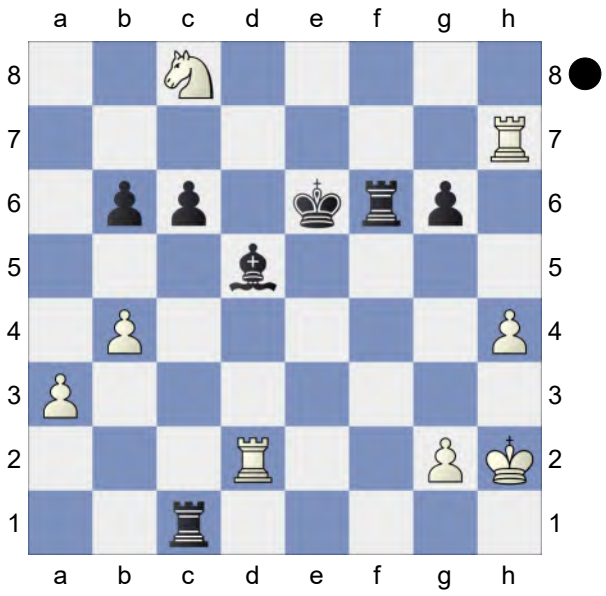
[10...Bg4= 0.14/20 was preferrable.]

11.exf5!± Bxf5 12.d4 e4

(Diagram)



13.Nfd2 0.01/19
[White should try 13.d5!± 0.60/20 exf3 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Bxc6]
13...d5= 14.f3 exf3 15.Nxf3 Bd6 16.Bxd6 Qxd6 17.Nbd2 Nf6
[17...Rae8 is interesting. 18.Nh4 Bd7 19.Bd3 Rxe1+ 20.Qxe1 g5]
18.Bxc6 bxc6 19.Ne5 c5 20.Nb3 Ne4 21.Nxc5 Nxc5 22.dxc5 Qxc5+ 23.Qd4 Qb6 24.Qxb6
[24.Re2 is more complex. Rae8 25.Rae1 Re6 26.b4]
24...axb6 25.Nc6 Be4 26.c4! Kh7 27.Nb4 Rf5 28.Rad1 Rg5 29.Rd2 Ra5 1.00/24
[29...c6± 0.46/23]
30.a3 0.67/22
[30.cxd5± 1.00/24 Bf3 31.h3]
30...h5± 31.h4 Rf5 32.Nc6 -0.01/25
[32.Rf2± 0.78/22]
32...Rc5= 33.Nd4 Rf6 34.cxd5 Bxd5 35.b4 Rc4 36.Re5 c6 0.53/22
[36...Bf7= 0.13/22]
37.Rxh5+± Kg8 0.94/20
[37...Rh6± 0.56/22 38.Rxh6+ Kxh6]
38.Nf5 -0.01/24
[38.b5± 0.94/20]
38...g6 0.73/21
[38...Re4= -0.01/24 39.Rg5 g6]
39.Ne7+± Kf7 1.82/26
[39...Kg7± 0.76/26 40.Nxd5 gxh5 41.Nxf6 Kxf6]
40.Rh7++-
[Much less strong is 40.Nxd5?! gxh5 41.Nxf6 Kxf6±]
40...Ke6 41.Nc8 0.81/23 &Bianco is more active.
[⌓41.b5 1.33/21]
41...Rc1+± 42.Kh2



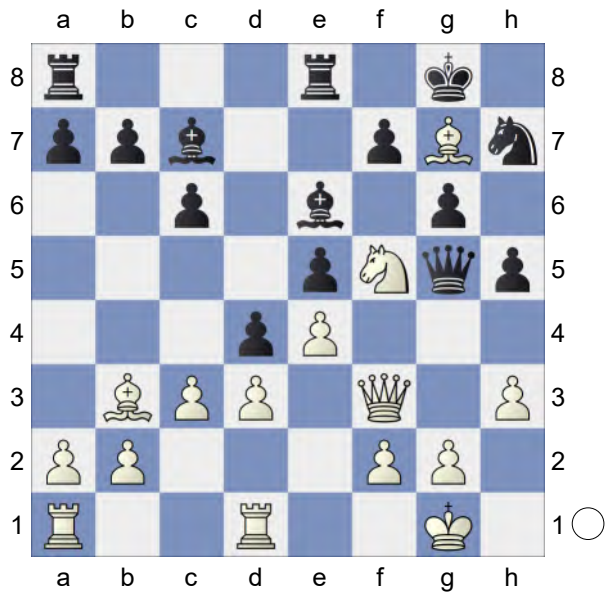
Re7+ is the strong threat. **42...Rff1 43.Nxb6 Rh1+ 44.Kg3** And now Re2+ would win. **44...Rc3+ 45.Kf2 Rxa3 46.Re2+ Kf5 47.Nxd5 cxd5** Endgame KRR-KRR **48.Rb2** 0.44/21
[48.Rf7+± 0.75/20 Kg4 49.Rd2 Rxh4 50.Rd7 *(50.Rxd5 Rb3±)*]
48...Raa1 49.Rf7+ 0.09/21
[49.Rd2± 0.42/20]
49...Ke6 0.57/21
[49...Ke4= 0.09/21 feels stronger. 50.Kg3 d4]
50.Rf3 Rab1 51.Rxb1 Rxb1± KR-KR **52.Rf4**
[52.Rg3!?]
52...Ke5 0.57/26
[52...Rb2+= 0.18/26 53.Kg3 Rb3+

54.Kf2 Rb2+ 55.Kf1 Rb1+ 56.Kf2 Rb2+]
53.g3 0.01/28
[White should play 53.Rg4± 0.57/26]
53...Rb2+= The position is equal. **54.Kf1 d4 55.Rg4 Rxb4 56.Rxg6 Ke4 57.Ke2 d3+ 58.Kd2** White threatens Rg4+ and mate. **58...Rb2+ 59.Kd1 Rb1+** Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.16 (very precise) /Black=0.13 (very precise)
½-½

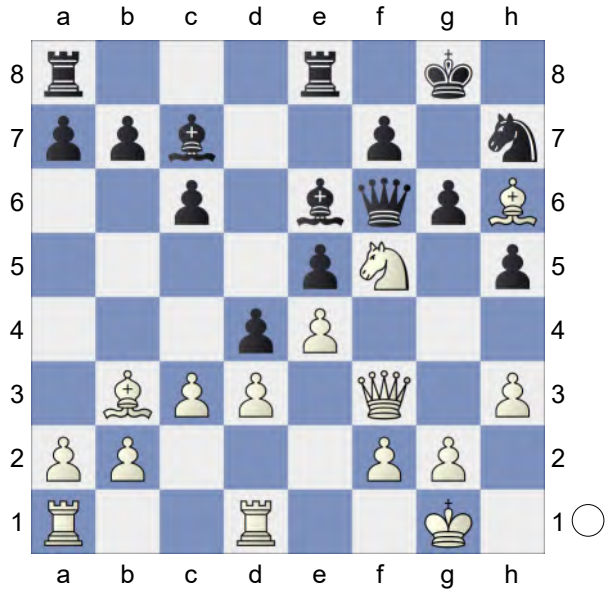
302 **C65**
□ **Kilic,Eray** **2441**
■ **Aditya,Mittal** **2565**
Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid (8)
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.Nd2** Black should prevent Nf3. **7...c6 8.Ba4 d6 9.c3** The position is equal. **9...Bb6 10.Nc4** 10.Bb3 is vanishing. 10.Lb3 scheint zu verschwinden. 10.Bb3 is vanishing. 10. Lb3 scheint zu verschwinden. **10...Bc7 11.Ne3**
[11.Bb3 0-0 *(11...d5 12.exd5 Nxd5 13.Re1 0-0 14.Nxe5 Re8 15.d4 Be6 16.Qh5 Nf6 17.Qf3 Bxb3 18.axb3 Bxe5 19.dxe5 Nd7 20.Bf4 Nc5 21.Rad1 Qe7 22.b4 Ne6 23.Be3 a5 24.bxa5 Rxa5 25.Qe4 g6 26.f4* Pichot,A (2642)-Sadhwani,R (2624) Chess.com INT 2023 0-1 (48)*)* 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 g5 14.Bg3 Bg4 15.f3 Be6 16.Re1 Nh5 17.Bf2 Nf4 18.d4 exd4 Warlick,J (2764)-Hantel,T (2781) Rouen 2011 Telechess CBM 89 [John Watson]]
11...0-0 12.h3N
[12.Qf3 g6 13.Bb3 Qe7 14.h3 Kg7 15.g4 h5 16.Qg3 hxg4 17.hxg4 Rh8 18.Bd2 Bb6 19.f3 d5 20.Kg2 Be6 21.Rad1 Rad8 22.Bc1 d4 23.Nc4 Bxc4 24.Bxc4 dxc3 25.bxc3 Ba5 26.Bb2 Nh7 Andriasian,Z (2619)-Bacrot,E (2714) Warsaw POL 2011 [Robert Ris] 0-1 (43)]
12...d5 13.Qf3 Be6 14.Rd1N
[Vorgänger: 14.Nf5 Nd7 15.Ng3 Qf6 16.Qe2 dxe4 -0.02/27 *(16...a5∓* -0.35/26 *)* 17.dxe4= b5 18.Bb3 Bxb3 19.axb3 Nc5 20.b4 0.00/24 ;½-½ Timofeev,A (2567)-Zvjaginsev,V (2598) RUS-chT Blitz 2022 (6.7) ; ½-½ Timofeev,A (2567)-Zvjaginsev,V (2598) RUS-chT Blitz 2022 (6.7) *(20.Be3±* 0.42/20 feels stronger. *Nxb3 21.Ra3)*]
14...g6 15.Bb3 h5 0.25/23
[15...a5∓ -0.40/21]
16.Nf1 -0.07/27
[⌓16.exd5 0.25/23 Nxd5 17.d4]
16...Nh7!= 17.Bh6 Re8 18.Ne3 d4 19.Nf5 -0.40/27 **Qf6** 0.42/28 **20.Bg7** -0.29/28
[20.Ng7!± 0.42/28]
20...Qg5 0.34/26

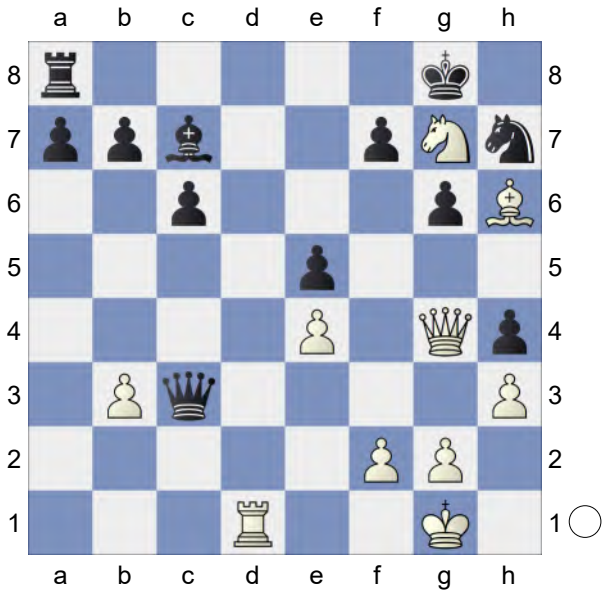
(Diagram)



21.Bh6!± Qf6

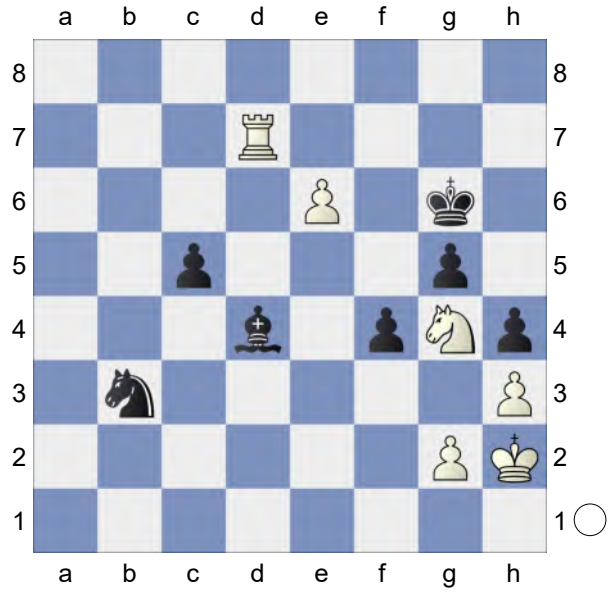


22.Bg7! -0.29/28 **Qd8!=** -0.29/28 Strongly threatening ...Bxf5. **23.Bh6!**
[23.Bxe6? fxe6 24.Nxd4 Kxg7-+]
23...Bxb3∓ -0.40/27 **24.axb3 Re6** 0.46/23
[Black should try 24...Nf8∓ -0.36/24]
[24...Ng5 25.Bxg5 Qxg5]
25.Ng7 -0.92/23
[25.Qg3± 0.46/23 was forced to keep a grip.]
25...Rd6∓ And now ...Qh4 would win.
26.Qg3 -1.78/23 Inhibits Qh4.
[26.cxd4∓ -0.94/22 Rxd4 27.Nf5! *(27.Nxh5 Qh4∓)*]
26...h4? 0.24/20
[26...dxc3-+ -1.78/23 Hoping for ...h4. 27.bxc3 Nf6]
27.Qg4=
[27.Qxe5 Rd7 28.Qc5 Nf8-+]
27...dxc3 28.bxc3 Nf5 is the strong threat. **28...Rxd3** 0.90/25
[28...Nf6= 0.27/25 29.Qxh4 Kh8]
29.Rxd3± Qxd3 30.Rd1 &Bianco is more active. **30...Qxc3** 2.93/19
[30...Qc2± 0.97/19]



31.Nf5!+- Bd8 Inhibits Ne7+.
[31...Qxb3 32.Ne7+ Kh8 33.Rd7+-]
32.Rd7 Bf6 33.Bd2
[And not 33.Nd6 Qe1+ 34.Kh2 Qxf2=]
33...Qa1+? 8.80/16
[33...Qxb3 3.60/24 34.Nh6+ Kg7 35.Rxf7+ Qxf7 36.Nxf7 Kxf7 37.Qd7+ Kg8 38.Qxb7 Rd8]
34.Kh2 Rf8 35.Bb4? 0.00/31
[35.Bh6]
[35.Rxb7 Qa6+-]
35...Qc1? 3.76/24
[35...Bg5= 0.00/31]

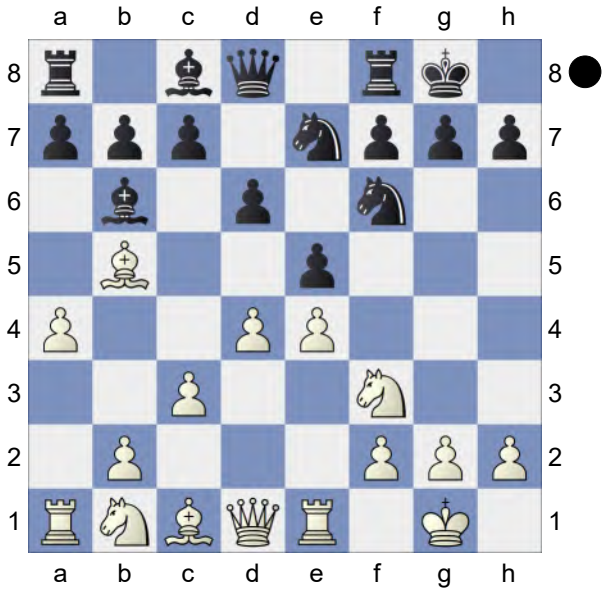
36.Bxf8 The board is on fire. **36...Nxf8 37.Rxb7 Qd2 38.f4** Inhibits Bg5. **38...Qxf4+ 39.Qxf4** Remove Defender **39...exf4** Endgame KRN-KBN **40.Nh6+** Deflection, Double Attack **40...Kh7 41.Rxf7+ Bg7 42.Ng4 a5 43.e5 Ne6 44.Ra7 Nc5 45.Rxa5 Nxb3 46.Ra4** Threatens to win with e6.
[Not 46.Ra7 Nd4 47.Rd7 c5+-]
46...g5 47.e6 Kg6 48.Ra7 Bd4 49.Rd7 c5



50.e7? 0.00/43
[50.Nh6!+- 3.70/20 Threatening mate with e7. Bf6 51.Ng8]
50...Kf7= 51.Nh6+ Ke8 52.Rb7 Nd2! 53.Nf5 Nf1+ 54.Kh1 Ng3+ 55.Nxg3 hxg3 KR-KB **56.Rc7 Bf6** 0.49/47
[56...Kf7= 0.00/53]
57.Rxc5± Kxe7 58.Rc4 Ke6 0.05/42
[58...Be5± 0.37/48]
59.Kg1= Kf5 60.Kf1 g4? 17.05/17
[60...f3± 0.58/33]
61.Rc5++- Ke4 62.hxg4 Bd4 63.Rf5 Be5 64.Rf7 White mates. **64...Kd5 65.g5 Ke6 66.g6 Bf6 67.Ke2 Be5 68.Kf3** Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.47
1-0

303 **C65**
□ **Dai,Changren** **2512**
■ **Kong,Xiangrui** **2457**
TCh-CHN Div A Finals (4.1) 09.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

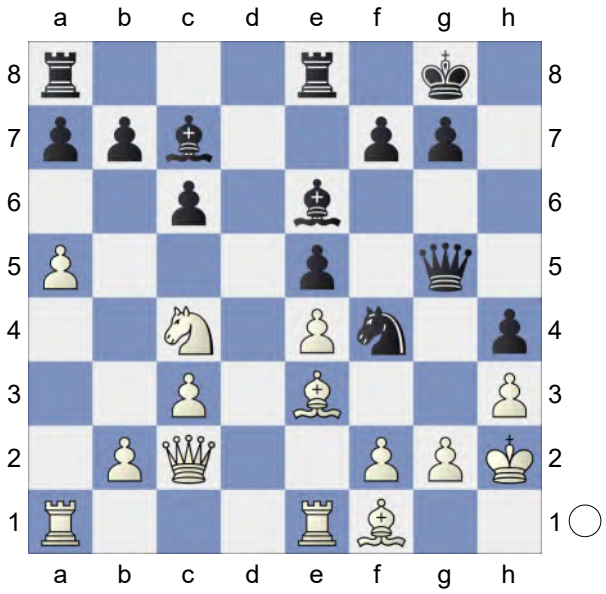
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.Re1 Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.a4!**



And now a4-a5 would win. The position is equal. outshines the older 9.h3. erfolgreicher als das alte 9.h3. **9...c6 10.Bd3 Ng6 11.h3** Against Bc8-g4 **11...Re8 12.Nbd2**
[12.Qc2 Nh5 13.Bg5 f6 14.Be3 Nhf4 15.Bf1 exd4 16.Nxd4 d5 17.Nd2 Bc7 18.Rad1 Qd6 19.N4f3 Be6 20.exd5 Nxd5 21.Ne4 Qf8 22.Bc5 Qf7 23.c4 Nb6 24.Bd6 Bf5 25.Bxc7 Rxe4 26.Rxe4 Qxc7 1-0 Fressinet,L (2692)-Bacrot,E (2702) FRA-chT Top 12 2016 (10.3)]
12...Bc7 13.Qc2 Be6N
[13...Nh5 14.Bf1 Nhf4 15.Kh1 -0.35/19 *(15.b4= 0.03/18 Qf6 16.Ra3 Be6 17.Kh2 a5 18.b5 Bd7*

19.g3 Ne6 20.Bb2 d5 21.Qd1 exd4 22.cxd4 h6 23.Rb3 Qd8 24.exd5 cxd5 25.Rbe3 Nef8 26.Rxe8 Bxe8 27.Qb3 Bd6 28.Bg2 Ne7 29.Ba3 Rc8 30.h4 1-0 Savoca,A-Bukarin,M corr 154/123 2022 *Rc7 31.Ne5 Bxa3 32.Qxa3 Ne6 33.Ndf3 Nf5 34.Qb2 Nd6 35.h5 Ne4 36.Nh4 Qg5 37.Qa2 Rc3 38.Bxe4 dxe4 39.Rxe4 Qxh5 40.Qd2 Rc8 41.Kg2 Rd8 42.Nhf3 Qf5 43.Qe2 h5 44.Kh2 Nc7 45.Nh4* 1-0 5.7.dc5 ♗c5 8.a3 dc4-Correct Move Order COL Students-ch (Women) 2023*)* 15...Qf6 0.01/19 *(15...exd4∓* -0.35/19 *16.cxd4 a6)* 16.b4 d5 17.Bb2 exd4 18.cxd4 Nh4 0.43/20 *(18...a6=* -0.03/17 *)* 19.e5!± Qg6 20.Qxg6 Nhxg6 1-0 Brkic,A (2637)-Annaberdiev,M (2467) TUR-chT Ankara 2024 (12.15)]

14.dxe5 Nxe5 15.Nxe5 dxe5 16.Nc4 Nh5 17.Bf1 Nf4 18.Kh2 h5 19.Be3 h4 20.a5 Qg5

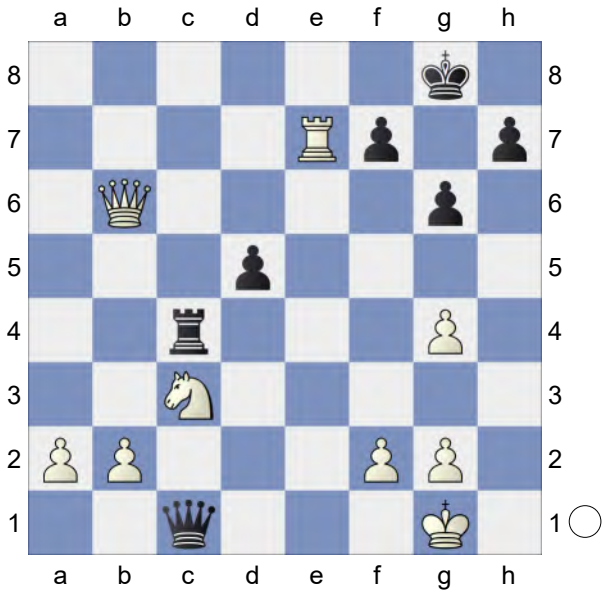


And now ...Be6xc4 would win. **21.b3 Qg6 22.Red1 Reb8** 0.01/20
[22...Nd5∓ -0.36/21]
23.Kh1= Qg5 24.Nd6 Qf6 25.c4 Bxh3 26.Nf5 -0.62/22
[26.gxh3= -0.17/21 feels stronger. Bxd6 27.c5]
26...Bxf5 27.exf5 Rd8 28.Rxd8+ Rxd8
[28...Qxd8 29.a6=]
29.Qe4 a6
[29...Qd6!?]
30.b4 g5 -0.01/21
[30...Qd6∓ -0.46/20]
31.fxg6
[31.Kg1 keeps more tension. g4 32.g3 hxg3 33.fxg3 Qh6 34.Rb1]
31...fxg6 32.b5
[32.Kg1 simplifies Qf5 33.Qxf5 gxf5 34.Bxf4 exf4 35.b5]
32...Bxa5? 4.04/23 **33.bxa6 bxa6 34.Rxa5 Rd1 35.Rxe5?** 0.99/26
[Inferior is 35.Qxe5 Rxf1+ 36.Kh2 Qxe5 37.Rxe5 Nd3=]
[35.Kh2+- 5.25/24 and White stays clearly on top.]
35...Rxf1+?? 3.72/5
[35...Ne2± 0.99/26 36.Re8+ Kf7 37.Rf8+ Decoy *(37.Kh2 Nc3=)* 37...Kxf8 38.Bc5+ Kf7 39.Qxe2 Qa1]
36.Kh2+- g5 9.21/24
[⌓36...h3 4.14/23]
37.Rf5 Qd6 38.Rxg5+ Ng6+ 39.Bf4
Weighted Error Value: White=0.28 (precise) /Black=0.82
1-0

304 **C67**
□ **Dai,Changren** **2536**
■ **Yu,Ruiyuan1** **2497**
CHN-chT Div-B (4) 08.02.2023
[Kitty Kat]

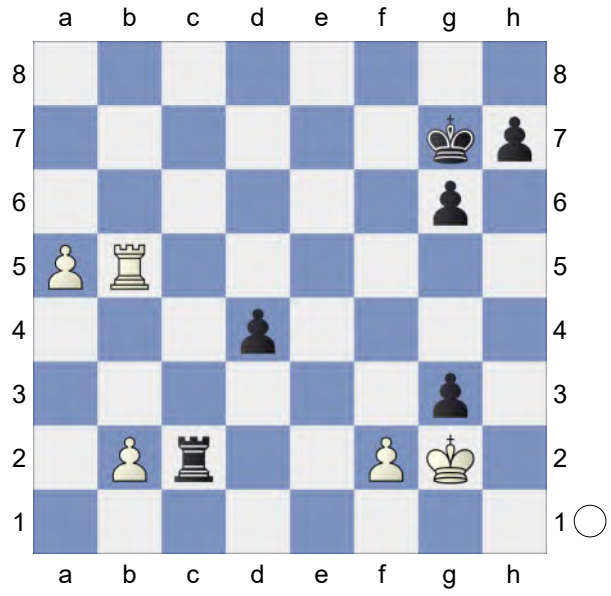
C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2686 v3 ↻ 2.00GHz 1995 MHz W=16.0 plies; 1. 592kN/s; 22 TBAs; Perfect2021.ctg

B=14.4 plies; 2.093kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1! is recently more successful than 7.Be2. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7.Le2. is recently more successful than 7.Be2. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 7.Le2.
7...Nxe5N 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Nc3
[11.Rxe8+ Nxe8 12.d5 d6 13.Nd2 c6 14.Nc4 cxd5 15.Qxd5 Qe7 16.Ne3 Be6 17.Qf3 Rc8 18.c3 Bg5 19.Nf5 Qf6 20.Bxg5 Qxg5 21.Nd4 Bd5 22.Qf5 Qxf5 23.Nxf5 Kf8 24.Ne3 Be6 25.a4 Nf6 1-0 Harikrishna,P (2729)-Nakamura,H (2746) Kolkata (blitz) 2018]
11...c6 0.70/18 Against Nc3-d5
[Better is 11...Rxe1= -0.01/20 12.Qxe1 Bxd4 13.Bf4 Ne8 14.Nd5 c6 15.Ne7+ Kf8 16.Nxc8 Qf6 17.Rd1 Rxc8 18.Qe4 Bc5 19.Rxd7 Rd8 20.Rxd8 Qxd8 21.c3 Qf6 22.Qe5 Qxe5 23.Bxe5 Nf6 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.g4 h6 26.Kg2 f5 27.gxf5 Bd6 ½-½ Lu,M (2441)-Li,R (2318) TCh-CHN Div A Finals 2024 (3.1)]
12.Rxe8+N 0.14/22
[White should play 12.d5± 0.70/18]
[12.Bd3 Bxd4 13.Bf4 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Rxe1+ 15.Qxe1 Ne8 16.Rd1 g6 17.c4 d6 18.h4 Ng7 19.Bg5 f6 20.Bf4 Bg4 21.f3 Be6 22.h5 Bf7 23.h6 Ne6 24.Be3 Qe7 25.Qd2 b6 26.Be4 Qc7 ½-½ Deep Junior-Deep Fritz SCCT (3m+2s(Champions 2021 (2.3)]
12...Nxe8= The position is equal. **13.d5 d6 14.Qf3**
[14.Ne4 Be7 15.c4 cxd5 16.cxd5 Bf5 17.Ng3 Bg6 18.Be3 Nf6 19.Qb3 Ng4 20.Bd2]
14...Bd7 15.Bc4 Qa5 16.Bd2 Qb6 17.Rb1 Qd4 18.Bd3 Qg4 0.61/20
[18...Be5= 0.15/18]
19.Qe3 0.17/20
[19.Qxg4± 0.61/20 Bxg4 20.Ne4]
19...Bd4 20.Qe7
[20.Qf4 Qxf4 21.Bxf4 Rc8 22.h3]
20...Bf6 21.Qe1 Bg5 0.58/19
[21...Bd4= 0.17/18]
22.Bxg5± Qxg5 23.Qe4 g6 24.Qb4 b6 25.dxc6 Bxc6 26.Be4 Bxe4 27.Qxe4 Rc8 28.Re1 0.11/20
[28.Qa4± 0.57/19]
28...Nf6= 29.Qa4 d5 30.h3
[30.Qxa7 d4 31.Qb7 Qf5-+]
30...Qf5 31.Re7
[31.Qd4 Rc4 32.Qd3 Qxd3 33.cxd3 Rd4 34.Rd1]
31...Rc4 0.79/22
[31...h5= 0.01/19 remains equal.]
32.Qxa7± White is more active.
32...Qxc2 33.Qxb6
[33.Rxf7!? Qc1+□ 34.Kh2 Qf4+ 35.Kg1 Qc1+=]
33...Qc1+! 34.Kh2 Ng4+ 35.hxg4 Qh6+ 36.Kg1! Qc1+ Predecessor: Predecessor: **37.Kh2 Qh6+ 38.Kg1! Qc1+**



39.Nd1! Qxd1+= Endgame KQR-KQR.

White is a pawn up. **40.Kh2⇄** White is not keeping still **40...Qxg4 41.Qb8+ Kg7** (→ ...Qg4-h4+)
[41...Rc8 42.Re8+ Rxe8 43.Qxe8+ Kg7]
42.Qe5+ Deflection **42...Kh6** ...Qg4-h4+ is the strong threat. **43.Qe3+** ½-½ (34) Nakamura,H (2750)-Vachier Lagrave,M (2761) Chess.com INT 2022
[43.Rxf7? Qh4+ 44.Kg1 Rc1+]
43...Kg7 44.g3 Qf5 45.Kg2
[45.Qe5+ simplifies Qxe5 46.Rxe5 Rc2 47.Kg1]
45...d4 46.Qe5+ Qxe5 47.Rxe5 KR-KR **47...Rc2 48.Rb5 f5 49.a4 f4** 0.82/24 **50.a5**
[50.gxf4 d3=]
50...fxg3 1.26/20
[⌓50...d3 0.77/21]



51.Kxg3 0.01/20
[51.a6!± 1.26/20 Rxf2+ 52.Kxg3]
51...Rc1? 1.78/20 This move loses the game for Black.
[51...d3= 0.01/20 and Black has nothing to worry.]
52.Rb3 Kf6 2.48/22
[52...Rc8± 1.43/20]
53.a6+- Rc8 54.Kf4 g5+? 3.91/21
[54...h5 2.38/20 55.Ke4 h4 56.Kxd4 Ra8]
55.Ke4 g4? 6.30/20
[55...Ra8 3.16/21 56.Rb6+ *(56.Kxd4 Rxa6 57.Rb8 Kf5=)* 56...Kg7 57.Kxd4 *(57.b4 h5+-)* 57...h5]
56.Ra3 h5? 6.62/20
[56...Ke7 3.18/21 57.a7 *(57.Kxd4 Kd7+-)* 57...Ra8 58.Kxd4 Kd6]
57.b4
[57.Kxd4 h4 58.b4 h3+-]
57...Ke6 58.b5 Kd6 8.05/21
[⌓58...Kd7 4.95/18 59.b6 *(59.Kxd4 h4+-)* 59...Re8+ 60.Kxd4 h4]
59.Kxd4? 2.79/21
[59.b6 8.05/21]
59...h4? 9.30/17
[59...Rf8 2.79/21 60.a7 Ra8 61.Ra6+ Kc7]
60.b6 and b6-b7 should not be overlooked **60...h3 61.a7** Intending b6-b7 and mate. **61...h2 62.b7**
[62.a8B Rxa8 63.b7 Rh8= *(63...h1R 64.bxa8Q Rd1+ 65.Ke4 Re1+ 66.Kf5 Re5+ 67.Kxg4 Re7 68.Rd3+ Kc7 69.Rc3+ Kb6 70.Qc6+ Ka5 71.Rc5+ Kb4 72.Qb6+ Ka4 73.Ra5#; 63...Rb8 64.Ra6+ Ke7 65.Rh6=)*]
62...h1Q 63.b8Q+
[63.bxc8R Qd5+ 64.Kc3 Qf3+ 65.Kc2 Qxf2+ 66.Kb3 Qf3+ 67.Rc3 Qf7+ 68.Rc4 Qb7+ 69.Kc3 Qf3+ 70.Kb2 Qg2+ 71.Rc2 Qb7+ 72.Ka2 Qd5+ 73.Kb2 Qb7+ 74.Ka2 Qd5+ 75.Kb1 Qb7+ 76.Ka1 Qh1+ 77.Kb2 Qb7+=]
63...Rc7 64.Ra6+ 10.26/5
[64.a8R Qd5+ 65.Ke3 Qf3+ 66.Kd2 Qxf2+ 67.Kd3 Qf3+ 68.Kd2 Qf2+ 69.Kd3 Qf3+ 70.Kd4 Qd5+ *(70...Qd1+ 71.Rd3+-)* 71.Ke3 Qf3+

72.Kd2 Qf2+=]
[⌓64.a8Q #7/16 Qxa8 65.Rxa8 Kc6 66.Ra6+ Kd7 67.Kd5 *(67.Qb5+ Kd8 68.Qg5+ Ke8 69.Qg8+ Kd7 70.Qe6+ Kd8 71.Rd6+ Rd7 72.Qxd7#)* 67...Rc8 68.Ra7+ *(68.Rd6+ Ke8 69.Qxc8+ Ke7 70.Qc7+ Kf8 71.Rd8#)* 68...Kd8 69.Qd6+ Ke8 70.Qe7#]
64...Kd7 65.Qb5+
[65.a8R Qd1+ 66.Ke5 Rc5+ 67.Kf6 Qd4+ 68.Kg6 Qd3+ 69.Kh6 Qd2+ 70.Kg7 Qc3+ 71.Kf7 Qc4+ 72.Kg7 Qc3+ 73.Kh7 Qd3+ 74.Kh6 Qd2+ 75.Kg7 Qc3+=]
65...Ke7 66.Qe5+ 15.71/5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/Black=0.66 An unexpected result.
[Less strong is 66.a8R Rd7+=]
[⌓66.Qg5+ #5/12 Kf7 67.Qg6+ *(67.a8B?* loses. *Qd1+ 68.Ke5 Rc5+ 69.Kf4 Qd4+* Deflection *70.Kg3 Rxg5-+)* 67...Kf8 68.Rf6+ *(68.a8B Rd7+ 69.Ke5 Qh2+ 70.Ke4 Qg2+ 71.Ke3 Re7+ 72.Re6 Rxe6+ 73.Qxe6 Qxa8±)* 68...Ke7 69.Qg7+ Skewer Ke8 70.Rf8#]
½-½

305 **C65**
□ **Zhu,Jiner** **2514**
■ **Badelka,Olga** **2429**
Nikosia WGP 2025 (1.5) 15.03.2025
[Kitty Kat]

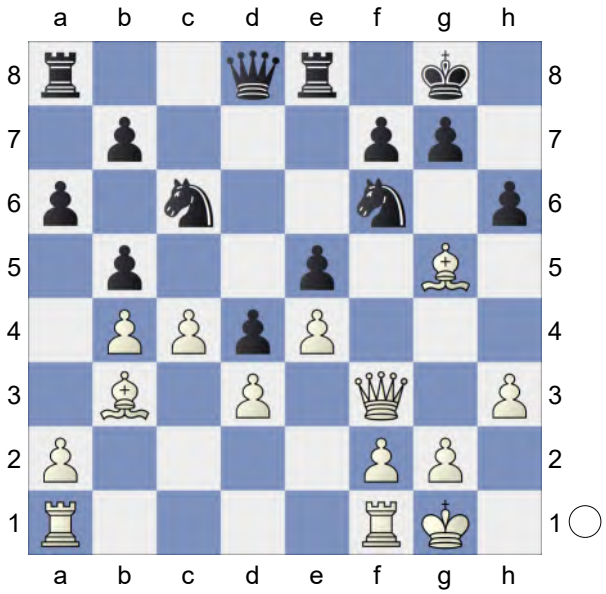
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 It was clea'Caruana,F: 'It was clear to me from the beginning that this would be a fighting game. Vladimir had just played a very long (nearly 8 hours!) and certainly disappointing game against Leko the previous round, so I felt it was a good time to strike." r to me from the beginning that this would be a fighting game. Vladimir had just played a very long (nearly 8 hours!) and certainly disappointing game against Leko the previous round, so I felt it was a good time to strike. Van Delft & Ris: 'BEATING KRAMNIK IN THE OPEN GAMES Winning against Kramnik is quite a feat, and doing so twice within a few weeks is amazing, especially considering how young Caruana still is. He switched from the Scotch to an Anti-Berlin.' It was clear to me from the beginning that this would be a fighting game. Vladimir had just played a very long (nearly 8 hours!) and certainly disappointing game against Leko the previous round, so I felt it was a good time to strike. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d6 6.0-0 0-0 7.Nbd2 Re8**
[7...Ne7 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bb6 10.b3 d5 11.e5 Ne4 12.Bd3 Bf5 13.Qe2 Nc6 14.Bb2 Nxd2 15.Qxd2 Be4 16.Be2 f6 17.b4 fxe5 18.dxe5 Kh8 19.b5 Ne7 20.Ng5 Ng6 21.g3 Qe7 22.e6 Caruana,F (2775)-Kramnik,V (2799) Dortmund 2012 CBM 150 [Caruana,Fabiano] 1-0 (53)]
[7...a6 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.d4 exd4 10.cxd4 Ba7 11.Qc2 Re8 12.Re1 c5 13.d5 Bd7 14.Nc4 h6 15.Bd2 Qe7 16.Ba5 Nxe4 17.Bxc7 Bf5 18.Nxd6 Nxd6 19.Rxe7 Bxc2 20.Bxd6 Red8 21.Rc1 Rxd6 22.Rxc2 Svidler,P (2735)-Meier,G (2628) Baden-Baden Karlsruhe 2019 CBM 190 [Krasenkow,Michal] 1-0 (51)]
8.b4N
[8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Nxd4 10.Bxe8

Qxe8 11.Nxd4 Bxd4 12.h3 Bd7 13.Re1 Bc6 14.Nf3 Bb6 15.Be3 Ba5 16.Bd2 Bb6 17.Be3 Ba5 18.Bd2 Bb6 19.Be3 ½-½ (19) Dominguez Perez,L (2713)-Aronian,L (2783) Leon (m/1-rapid) 109/(188) 2010]

8...Bb6 9.Nc4 a6 The position is equal. **10.Nxb6 cxb6 11.Ba4 d5 12.Qe2 Bg4 13.h3↑** White fights for an advantage. **13...Bh5 14.Bg5 b5 15.Bb3 Bxf3** 0.53/21

[15...Qd6= 0.15/20]

16.Qxf3± d4 17.c4 h6



18.cxb5! axb5 19.Bd2 Qe7 20.h4 0.20/19

[20.Rab1± 0.59/18 is more appropriate.]

20...Nh7 1.06/23

[20...Nxb4= 0.20/19 21.g4 Kh8]

21.Rac1± Nd8 1.95/20

[21...Nf6± 1.29/20 was worth a try.]

22.Qg3+- Kh8 23.Rc5 Ra6 24.h5 1.27/21 Against Rg6

[24.Rxb5+- 2.35/21 Nf6 25.a4]

24...Nf6± 25.Qh3 &Bianco is more active.

[25.Rxb5 Nxh5 26.Qh2 Nf6±]

25...Ne6 2.52/22

[25...Rb6± 1.53/22]

26.Rxb5+-

[26.Rxe5?! Ng5 27.Rxg5 hxg5 28.Bxg5 Qd7 29.Qxd7 Nxd7 30.Bxf7 Rf8+-]

26...Rc6 27.Qf5 Nd8 28.Rc1 Rxc1+ 29.Bxc1 b6 30.Bd2

[Weaker is 30.Rxb6 Qc7 31.Bxh6 Qxb6∓]

30...Qc7 3.82/24

[30...Nd7 2.23/23 31.Ba4 Ne6]

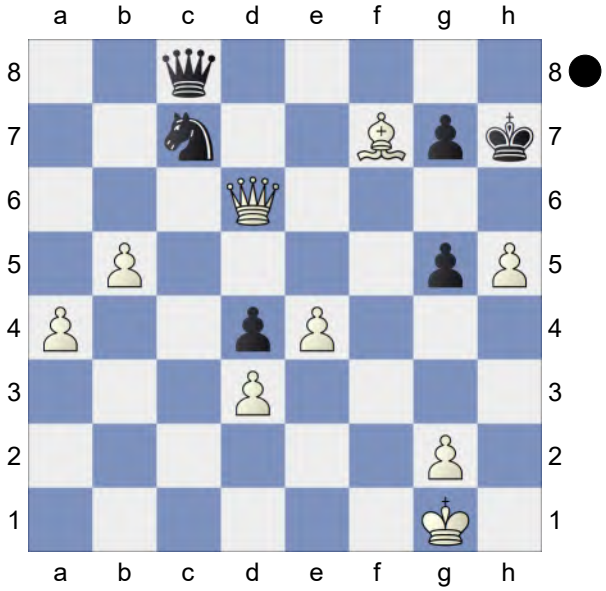
31.f4 exf4 32.Qxf4

[Don't take 32.Bxf4?! Qc3+-]

32...Qc6 33.Rf5 Nh7 34.b5 Qc8 35.Qd6 Ne6 6.51/24

[⌓35...Qb7 4.17/20 36.Re5 Rf8]

36.Qxb6 Nhg5 37.a4 Re7 38.Qd6 Rc7 39.Rf1 Nc5 40.Bxg5 hxg5 41.Rc1 Kh7 42.Bd5 Ne6 43.Rxc7 Nxc7 44.Bxf7



White wants to mate with h6! **44...g4 45.Qg6+ Kh8 46.h6 Ne8 47.hxg7+** Weighted Error Value: White=0. 19 (very precise) /Black=0.64

[Not 47.Bxe8 Qc1+ 48.Kh2 Qf4+ 49.g3 Qf2+ 50.Kh1 Qf1+ 51.Kh2

Qf2+ 52.Kh1 Qf1+ 53.Kh2 Qf2+=]
1-0

306 **C65**
□ **Ivanchuk,Vassily** **2609**
■ **Daghli,Arash** **2410**
Dubai Police op-A (2) 05.05.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.0-0 Bd6 8.Qe2N** -0.08/21 8.Nb3 gains popularity. A promising side line. 8.Sb3 wird beliebter. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.

[⌓8.d4 0.28/23 Nd7 9.dxe5 Nxe5 10.Nxe5 Bxe5 11.Nf3 *(11.f4 Bd4+ 12.Kh1 f6 13.Qe2 0-0 14.Nf3 Bc5 15.Be3 Qe7 16.Rae1 Rae8 17.Qf2 Bd6* 4.c3 ♘f6 5.e5/6...f5 (2675)-Roscher,J (2647) Gyula 2017 Inf 68 [Grob NZZ-3 p17 FSZ#721]*)* 11...Qxd1 12.Rxd1]

[8.Nb3 c5 *(8...a5 9.Qe1 a4 10.Na5 Qb8 11.b4 0-0 12.Ng5 Re8 13.Nxe6 Rxe6 14.Rb1 Bf8 15.Bd2 b6 16.Nc4 Qe8 17.Ne3 b5 18.f4 exf4 19.Rxf4 c5 20.bxc5 Bxc5 21.Kh1 Bxe3 22.Bxe3 Nd5 23.Rf5* Novy,M (2655)-Mohandesi,S (2631) San Diego 2023 Colle NS [John Watson] ½-½ *)* 9.Na5 Qc8 10.b3 0-0 11.Bb2 Bg4 12.Nc4 Re8 13.a4 Bh5 14.Qe2 Nd7 15.Qe3 Qd8 16.Kh1 f6 17.Rg1 Bf7 18.g4 h6 19.g5 fxg5 20.Nxg5 hxg5 21.Rxg5 Qf6 22.Rag1 Bf8 Salman,F (2764)-♘d7 10.d4 (2753) Porto Carras GRE 2022 CBM 51 ext [Scheeren,Peter MJ] 0-1 (33)]

[8.b3 Nd7 9.Nc4 Qe7 10.Ng5 Bxc4 11.bxc4 0-0 12.Nf3 b5 13.cxb5 cxb5 14.g3 Nc5 15.Nh4 g6 16.Ng2 Ne6 17.f4 f5 18.Bb2 exf4 19.gxf4 fxe4 20.dxe4 Rad8 21.Qg4 Bc5+ 22.Kh1 Bd4 Boskovic,M (2713)-Sudgen,J (2760) Moscow 2022 CBM 72 ext [John Watson] 0-1 (34)]

8...Nd7 9.Rd1N

[Vorgänger: 9.Re1 -0.26/22 9.Nb3 0.05 c5 10.Nf1 f6 11.c3 Qe7 12.a3 -0.34/23 *(12.d4=* 0.15/23 *)* 12...a5 0.03/29 *(12...0-0∓* -0.34/23 *)* 13.d4= cxd4 14.cxd4 exd4 15.Nxd4 0-1 Hjartarson,J (2520)-Hovhannisyan, R (2630) Reykjavik op 2019 (3)]

9...Qe7 10.a4 f6 11.a5 a6 12.b3 -0.44/21

[12.Nc4= 0.25/23]

12...0-0 0.22/24

[12...0-0-0∓ -0.44/21]

13.Nf1 -0.26/20

[⌓13.Nh4 0.22/24]

13...c5= 14.Ng3 Nb8 15.h3 Qd7 16.Rf1 -0.90/23

[16.Re1∓ -0.59/25]

16...Nc6∓ 17.Bd2 b5 18.Rfb1 Rfd8 19.Bc3 Nd4 20.Qd1 -1.23/22

[⌓20.Nxd4 -0.80/23 cxd4 21.Bd2]

20...Bf8 -0.82/24

[⌓20...g6 -1.23/22]

21.Nd2 -1.21/24

[⌓21.Nxd4 -0.82/24 cxd4 22.Bd2]

21...Qc6 -0.84/23

[⌓21...Qf7 -1.21/24]

22.Ne2 -1.20/23

[⌓22.Nf3 -0.84/23]

22...Rd7 23.Rc1 Rad8 24.Qf1 -1.52/22

[⌓24.Qe1 -1.15/24]

24...g6 25.f4 Bh6 -0.81/24

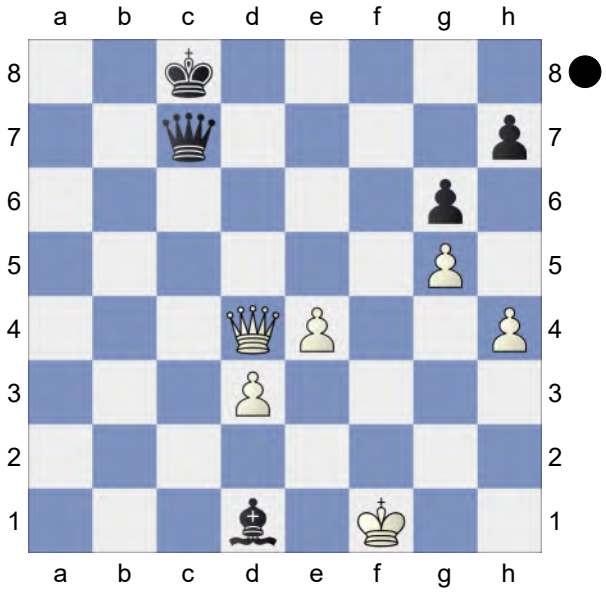
[⌓25...Rf7 -1.17/25]

26.Bxd4 exd4 0.45/20

[26...cxd4∓ -0.85/22 27.Qf2 Bf7]

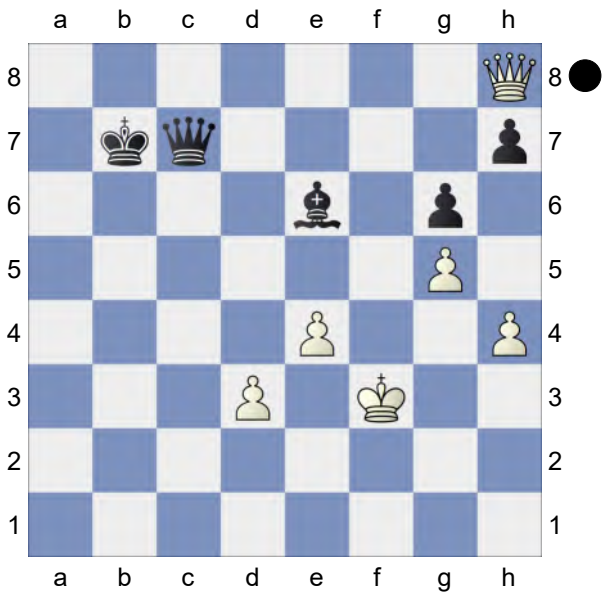
27.Qf2!± c4 0.71/23

[27...f5= 0.14/21 remains equal.]
28.Nf3 Bf8 29.g4 0.00/27
[29.Nfxd4? Rxd4! 30.Nxd4 Rxd4-+]
[29.bxc4± 0.64/23 bxc4 30.e5 *(30.Nexd4? Rxd4 31.Nxd4 Rxd4-+)*]
29...Bf7 30.g5
[30.Nexd4? Rxd4 31.Nxd4 Rxd4! 32.bxc4 *(32.Qxd4? Bc5-+)* 32...bxc4!-+]
30...Qe6 0.59/26
[30...Bg7= 0.11/22]
31.bxc4 bxc4 32.gxf6
[32.Nexd4 Qxh3 33.gxf6 Qg4+ 34.Qg2 Qxf4-+]
32...Qxf6 33.Rab1 Be6 34.Ng5 0.05/23
[34.Qg3± 0.36/21]
34...Bh6!= 35.Qg3 Bxg5 36.fxg5 Qe7 37.Nf4 Bf7 38.h4 Qe5 39.Rf1 Qxa5 40.Rf2 Qe5 41.Qg4 -0.95/20
[41.Qh3∓ -0.53/23]
41...a5∓ 42.Rb8 -2.34/19 **Rxb8-+ 43.Qxd7 Qd6 44.Qa4 Qe5 45.Kg2** -2.57/21
[⌓45.Qc6 -1.76/22]
45...cxd3 46.cxd3 Bb3! 47.Qd7 Rf8? 0.00/34
[47...Qd6-+ -2.46/20 48.Qxd6 cxd6]
48.Ne2= Rxf2+ 49.Kxf2 c5 50.Qd8+ Kg7 51.Qxa5 Qh2+ 52.Kf3? -1.81/23
[52.Kf1!= 0.00/29]
52...Qh3+-+
[52...Qxh4 53.Qc7+ Bf7 54.Qxc5= *(54.Nf4 Qh1+ 55.Kg4 Qg1+ 56.Kh4 Kg8=)*]
53.Ng3 -2.31/27
[53.Kf2∓ -1.28/26]
53...Bd1+ 54.Kf2 Qh2+
[54...Qxh4 55.Qa7+ Kh8 56.Qb8+ Kg7 57.Ke1=]
55.Kf1 Qh3+ 56.Kf2 Qh2+
[56...Qxh4 57.Qa7+ Kh8 58.Qb8+ Kg7 59.Ke1=]
57.Kf1 Qxg3 58.Qa7+ Kg8 59.Qa8+ Kf7 60.Qb7+ Ke6 61.Qc8+ Ke7!
[61...Kf7 62.Qd7+ Kg8 63.Qd8+ *(63.Qc8+ Kf7=)* 63...Kg7 64.Qf6+ Kg8 65.Qd8+ Kg7 66.Qf6+ Kg8 67.Qd8+=]
62.Qb7+ Kd8
[62...Kf8 63.Qc8+ Ke7 64.Qb7+ Ke8 65.Qc6+ *(65.Qc8+ Ke7∓)* 65...Kd8 66.Qd5+ Kc8 67.Qxc5+ Qc7 68.Qf8+ Qd8 69.Qc5+ Qc7 70.Qxd4∓]
63.Qd5+ Kc8 64.Qxc5+ Qc7! 65.Qxd4



Bb3 -0.02/27
[Better is 65...Qd7!∓ -1.41/24 66.Qc3+ Kb7]
66.Kg2? -1.94/27
[66.Ke2!= -0.02/27]
66...Be6? 0.00/31
[Black should play 66...Bc2-+ -1.94/27 ...Kb7 is the strong threat. 67.Qd5 Kb8]
67.Qh8+= Kb7 68.Kf3 -1.30/23
[68.Qb2+= 0.00/31 Qb6 69.Qg7+ Qc7 70.Qb2+ Qb6 71.Qg7+ Qc7 72.Qb2+]

(Diagram)



68...Qf7+ 0.00/27
[68...Bb3!∓ -1.30/23 Hoping for ... Bd1+. 69.Qf8 Kc6]
69.Ke3! Kc7
[69...Qc7?! 70.Kd4∓]
70.d4 Kd7 71.d5 Bg4 Strongly threatening ...Qf3+. **72.Qb2 Qf3+ 73.Kd4 Qf4 74.Qb7+ Qc7 75.Qa6 Qd6 76.Qb5+ Ke7 77.e5 Qa3** White must now prevent ...Qa1+. **78.d6+ Kf8** And now ...Qa1+ would win. **79.Qb8+ Kf7?** #34/61
[79...Kg7= 0.00/57 80.Qc7+ Kh8]
80.e6+! White mates. **80...Bxe6 81.Qc7+ Kg8 82.Qd8+ Kg7 83.Qf6+ Kg8 84.Qxe6+** KQ-KQ **84...Kf8 85.Qe7+ Kg8 86.Qd8+ Kf7 87.Qc7+ Kf8 88.Kd5 Qd3+ 89.Kc5 Qc3+ 90.Kb6 Qb4+ 91.Ka7 Qa4+ 92.Kb8 Qb5+ 93.Qb7 Qd3 94.Qe7+ Kg8 95.Kc7**
[Weaker is 95.d7 Qb5+ 96.Kc8 Qa6+ 97.Kd8 Qa8+ 98.Kc7 Qa5+ 99.Kd6 Qa6+ 100.Ke5 Qa1+ 101.Kf4 *(101.Ke6 Qa2+ 102.Kf6 Qf2+ 103.Ke6 Qa2+ 104.Kf6 Qf2+ 105.Ke6 Qa2+=)* 101...Qf1+ 102.Kg4 *(102.Ke5 Qa1+ 103.Kf4 Qf1+ 104.Kg4 Qd1+ 105.Kh3 Qd3+ 106.Kh2 Qc2+ 107.Kh3 Qd3+ 108.Kg2 Qd5+ 109.Kh2 Qd2+ 110.Kh3 Qd3+=)* 102...Qd1+ 103.Kh3 Qb3+ 104.Kh2 Qc2+ 105.Kh3 Qb3+ 106.Kh2 Qc2+ 107.Kh3 Qc3+ 108.Kg4 Qd4+ 109.Kh3 Qc3+ 110.Kh2 Qc2+=]
95...Qc3+ 96.Kd7 Qc5 97.Qe4 Qa7+ Both players deserved the win here. Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.22 (precise)
1-0

307 **C65**
□ **Vocaturo,Daniele** **2609**
■ **Mohammad Fahad,Rahman** **2428**
FIDE World Cup (1.1) 30.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2 Be6 7.0-0 Bd6 8.a4N** White has an edge. Recently 8. Nb3 got a lot of attention. Exploring less charted territory. 8.Sb3 erhält neuerdings viel Aufmerksamkeit. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[8.b3 0-0 9.Nc4 Bxc4 10.bxc4 h6 11.Bb2 Re8 12.Qe2 Qe7 13.a4 Nd7 14.Kh1 Nc5 15.g3 a5 16.Nh4 Qe6 17.f4 Nd7 18.f5 Qe7 19.Nf3 f6 20.Nh4 Reb8 21.Ng6 Qf7 22.Bc1 b5 6 Bxf6 Qxf6 7 Qb3 (2397)-Lyttelton, G (1883) Wijk aan Zee 2023 Inf 73 [John Watson] 1-0 (51)]
[8.Nb3 c5 9.Na5 Qc8 10.b3 0-0 11.Bb2 Bg4 12.Nc4 Re8 13.a4 Bh5 14.Qe2 Nd7 15.Qe3 Qd8 16.Kh1 f6 17.Rg1 Bf7 18.g4 h6 19.g5 fxg5 20.Nxg5 hxg5 21.Rxg5 Qf6 22.Rag1

Bf8 Salman,F (2764)-♘d7 10.d4 (2753) Porto Carras GRE 2022 CBM 51 ext [Scheeren,Peter MJ] 0-1 (33)]

8...Qe7 9.a5N

[Vorgänger: 9.b3 Nd7 10.Qe2 -0.27/24 *(10.a5* 0.11/23 might be stronger. *)* 10...g5 0.27/22 *(⌓10...a5* -0.27/24 *)* 11.Ne1 -0.27/24 *(⌓11.Nc4* 0.27/22 *)* 11...h5= 12.g3 -1.33/22 *(12.Nc4!=* -0.13/22 keeps the balance.*)* 12...Bg4 13.f3 Bh3 14.Ng2 0-0-0 15.Nc4 1-0 Kienboeck,B (1964)-Hengl,P (2012) AUT-ch U16 St Veit 2022 (6)]

9...a6 10.Qe2 Nd7 11.Nc4 f6 12.b3 -0.15/24

[⌓12.Nxd6+ 0.22/19 cxd6 13.b3]

12...Nf8 0.20/19

[12...Bb4 -0.15/24 deserves consideration.]

13.Nh4 g6 1.33/20

[13...Bxc4= -0.07/24 14.dxc4 g6]

14.Nxd6+± cxd6 15.f4 Bd7 1.67/18

[15...Nd7± 1.32/22 is a better defense.]

16.f5 g5 1.91/19

[16...0-0-0± 1.39/23 was worth a try. 17.Be3 gxf5]

17.Nf3+- c5 18.Nd2 Bc6 19.Nc4 h5 20.Ne3 Qf7 21.c4 Nd7 22.Bd2 0-0 23.b4 Rac8 24.Rfb1 cxb4 25.Bxb4

[25.Rxb4?! h4±]

25...Nc5 26.Ra3 Rfd8 2.04/22

[⌓26...Kh8 1.66/24 27.Bxc5 dxc5]

27.Be1 Kg7 28.Nc2 h4 29.Bf2 Rd7 30.Nb4 Kg8 31.Ra2 Qf8 32.Rab2 Qd8 33.Bxc5 0.79/24

[33.Ra1+- 1.85/22 has better winning chances.]

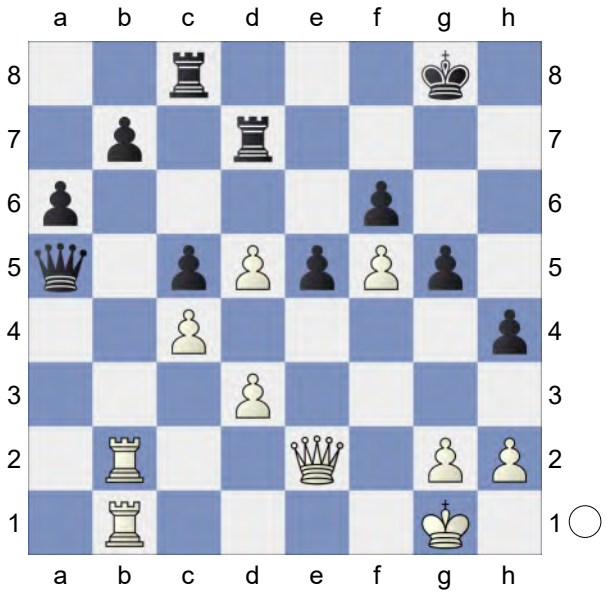
33...dxc5± 34.Nd5 Bxd5 1.57/21

[34...Rh7!± 0.70/23]

35.exd5 Rb6 is the strong threat.

[35.cxd5?! c4±]

35...Qxa5

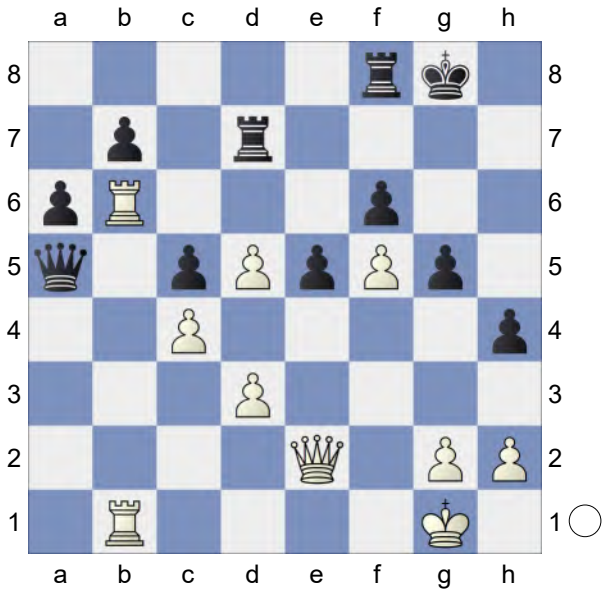


36.Rb6 Prevents b5.

[Stronger than 36.Rxb7 Rxb7 37.Rxb7 Qa1+ 38.Kf2 *(38.Qf1 Qd4+ 39.Kh1 Ra8=)* 38...Qc1=]

36...Rf8 5.19/19

[36...Rf7 1.83/22 is more resistant.]



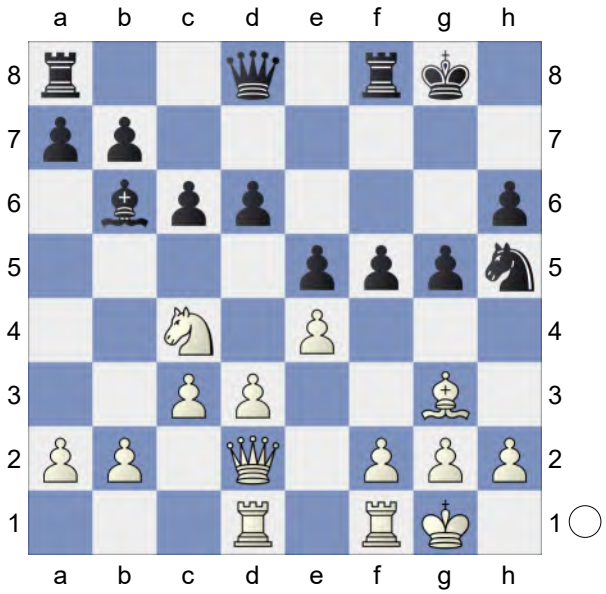
37.Qb2! Weighted Error Value: White=0.11 (very precise) /Black=0.31

[Worse is 37.Rxb7 Rxb7 38.Rxb7 Qa1+ 39.Kf2 *(39.Qf1 Qd4+ 40.Qf2*

Qxd3=) 39...Qc1=]
1-0

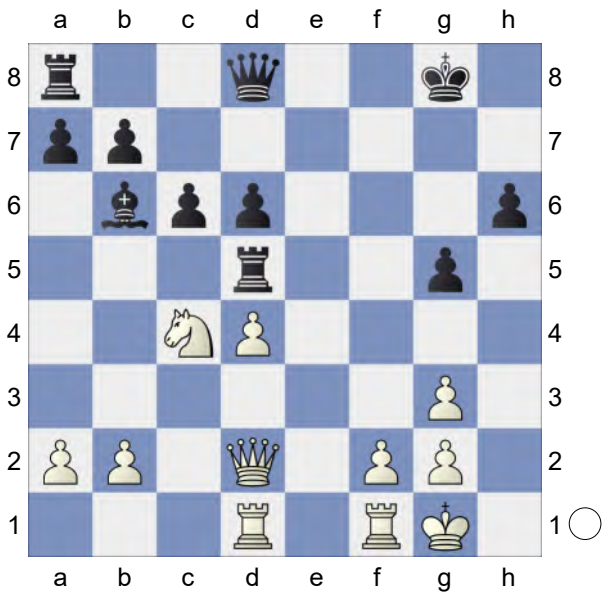
308 **C65**
□ **Fedorchuk,Sergey A** **2586**
■ **Omelja,Artem** **2435**
Aix en Provence Dole op 1st (7) 11.8.23
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.Na3!** is currently scoring better than 8.Bg5. wohl besser als 8.Lg5. **8...c6 9.Ba4** The position is equal. **9...0-0 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 g5** 0.32/20
[11...Bc7= -0.04/17]
12.Bg3± d6 13.Nc4 Bg4 14.Qd2 Nh5
[14...Bc7 15.Bb3 *(15.Bc2 Bh5 16.d4 Qe7 17.Ne3 Bg6 18.Nf5 Bxf5 19.exf5 Nh5 20.Rfe1 Nxg3 21.hxg3 Qf6 22.d5 g4 23.Be4 cxd5 24.Qxd5 Rab8 25.Rad1 Kg7 26.Qc4* ½-½ Smith,M (2174)-Konstantinov,A (2165) Teusaquillo Rapid op 2023 (6)*; 15.Ne3 Be6 16.Qe2 Qe7 17.Rad1 Rad8 18.Bb3 Rfe8 19.Qf3 d5 20.Nf5 Bxf5 21.Qxf5 Nh5 22.Qh3 Nxg3 23.fxg3 Kg7 24.Rf5 f6 25.Rdf1 Rf8 26.Qg4 Qc5+ 27.Kh1 Qe3 28.R5f3 Qe2 29.exd5 cxd5* 1-0 Fedorchuk,S (2657)-Pelletier,Y (2568) FRA-chT Top 12 2015 (4.2)*)* 15...Be6 16.Ne3 Qe7 17.f3 Nh5 18.Bf2 Rad8 19.d4 exd4 20.cxd4 Fressinet,L (2708)-Ivanchuk,V (2731) 120/(177) Paris 2013]
15.Bd1N
[15.d4 Be6 16.Ne3 Nf4 17.Bb3 Qf6 18.d5 Bd7 19.dxc6 bxc6 20.Nc4 Bc7 21.Nxd6 Balogh,C (2468)-Korneev,O (2573) 90/(153) Zalaegerszeg 2004]
15...Bxd1 16.Raxd1N
[Vorgänger: 16.Qxd1 Nxg3 17.hxg3 f5 0.99/19 *(17...Re8± 0.41/18)* 18.Qh5 0.50/20 *(18.Qb3!± 0.99/19 Kh8 19.exf5)* 18...Kg7± 19.exf5 Rxf5 20.Ne3 Bxe3 21.fxe3 Qf6 22.e4 Rxf1+! 23.Rxf1 1-0 Cop,T (2323)-Dabo Peranic,R (2289) CRO-chT1B 29th 2021 (1.6)]
16...f5 1.10/20
[16...Re8± 0.41/17]



Black is now going downhill. **17.exf5!± Nxg3 18.hxg3 Rxf5 19.d4 exd4 20.cxd4 Rd5** 1.28/20
[Black should try 20...d5 0.79/18 21.Nxb6 axb6]

(Diagram)



21.Qc3! g4 22.Ne3 Rg5 23.d5 Bxe3 24.Qxe3 Qf6 1.91/20
[24...Qe8± 1.46/20]
25.Qb3 1.34/22
[25.dxc6+- 1.91/20 bxc6 26.Rd4]
25...c5 2.46/20
[25...Qf7± 1.34/22]
26.Qxb7+- Rf8 27.Rde1 aiming for Re1-e6!.
[27.Qxa7 Qxb2 28.Qd7 Qf6]
27...Re5 2.52/21
[⌓27...Qf7 1.69/20 28.Re7 Qxd5]
28.Rxe5
[28.Qxa7? Rxe1 *(28...Rxd5? 29.Qd7+-)* 29.Rxe1 Qxf2+ *(29...Qxb2 30.Rf1±)* 30.Kh2 Qxe1-+]
28...Qxe5 29.Qxa7 Qxd5 Endgame KQR-KQR. White is a pawn up. **30.Qa4 h5 31.Rd1 Qe5 32.Qc2 Kg7** Repels Qc2-g6+ **33.Qd2 Rb8 34.b3**
[34.Qxd6 Qxd6 35.Rxd6 Rxb2±]
34...Ra8 4.44/20
[34...Rb7 2.98/20 35.Qxd6 Qxd6 36.Rxd6 c4 37.bxc4 Rb1+ 38.Kh2 Rb2]
35.Kf1 2.39/21
[35.Qxd6 Qxd6 36.Rxd6 Rxa2±]
[⌓35.a4 4.44/20]
35...Rd8 36.Re1 Qf6 37.Kg1 d5 38.Qa5 d4 3.57/22
[38...Qd6 2.49/18 was called for. 39.Qd2 Qf6]
39.Qxc5 d3 40.Qxh5 d2? 5.20/21
[40...Rd4 3.05/23 41.f4 gxf3 42.gxf3 *(42.Qxf3 Qd8+-)* 42...d2]
41.Qxg4+ White is clearly winning.
41...Kh8 42.Qh5+ Kg7 43.Rd1 Qe7 Strongly threatening ...Qe7-e1+.
44.Qg4+ Kf7 45.Qf4+ Kg6 46.Qe3 Weighted Error Value: White=0.18 (very precise) /Black=0.32
[46.Rxd2? too greedy. Qe1+ 47.Kh2 Rh8+-+ *(47...Qxd2 48.Qe4+ Kf6 49.Qh7∓; 47...Rxd2 48.Qg4+ Kf6 49.Qf4+ Ke6 50.Qc4+ Ke7 51.Qh4+ Ke8 52.Qh5+ Kf8 53.Qh6+ Ke7 54.Qh4+ Kd7 55.Qa4+ Ke7 56.Qh4+=)*]
1-0

309 **C67**
□ **Dai,Changren** **2515**
■ **Lou,Yiping** **2490**
CHN-ch Xinghua (4) 04.11.2022
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2686 v3 ↻ 2.00GHz 1995 MHz W=16.0 plies; 1. 592kN/s; 22 TBAs; Perfect2021.ctg B=14.4 plies; 2.093kN/s; Perfect2021.ctg
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nxe5 8.Rxe5 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8 11.Nc3
[11.Rxe8+ Nxe8 12.d5 d6 13.Nd2 c6 14.Nc4 cxd5 15.Qxd5 Qe7 16.Ne3 Be6 17.Qf3 Rc8 18.c3 Bg5

19.Nf5 Qf6 20.Bxg5 Qxg5 21.Nd4 Bd5 22.Qf5 Qxf5 23.Nxf5 Kf8 24.Ne3 Be6 25.a4 Nf6 1-0 Harikrishna,P (2729)-Nakamura,H (2746) Kolkata (blitz) 2018]

11...c6 0.56/20 Wards off Nc3-d5

[11...Rxe1= 0.07/22 12.Qxe1 Bxd4 13.Bf4 Ne8 14.Nd5 c6 15.Ne7+ Kf8 16.Nxc8 Qf6 17.Rd1 Rxc8 18.Qe4 Bc5 19.Rxd7 Rd8 20.Rxd8 Qxd8 21.c3 Qf6 22.Qe5 Qxe5 23.Bxe5 Nf6 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.g4 h6 26.Kg2 f5 27.gxf5 Bd6 ½-½ Lu,M (2441)-Li,R (2318) TCh-CHN Div A Finals 2024 (3.1)]

12.Rxe8+N

[12.Bd3 Bxd4 13.Bf4 Bxc3 14.bxc3 Rxe1+ 15.Qxe1 Ne8 16.Rd1 g6 17.c4 d6 18.h4 Ng7 19.Bg5 f6 20.Bf4 Bg4 21.f3 Be6 22.h5 Bf7 23.h6 Ne6 24.Be3 Qe7 25.Qd2 b6 26.Be4 Qc7 ½-½ Deep Junior-Deep Fritz SCCT (3m+2s(Champions 2021 (2.3)]

12...Nxe8 White is slightly better. **13.d5 d6 14.Qf3!N** An important novelty. Eine beachtenswerte Neuerung.

[Vorgänger: 14.Ne4 Be7 0.44/19 *(14...Be5=* 0.05/21 *)* 15.c4± cxd5 16.cxd5 Bf5 17.Ng3 Bg6 18.Be3 Nf6 0.57/20 *(18...Bg5=* 0.16/20 *)* 19.Qb3 Ng4 20.Bd2 ½-½ (61) Navara,D (2734)-Ding,L (2805) Prague 2019]

14...Bd7 15.Bc4 Qa5 16.Bd2 Qb6 17.Rb1 Qd4! 18.Bd3 Qg4 19.Qe3 0.19/21

[19.Qxg4± 0.58/22 might be stronger. Bxg4 20.Bf4]

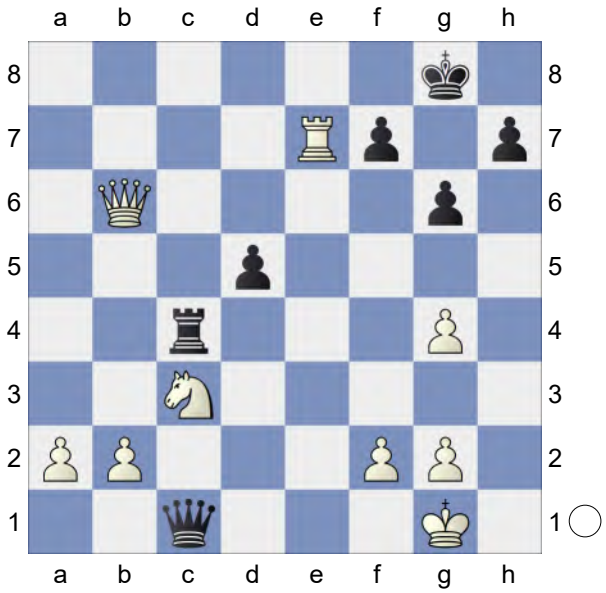
19...Bd4 20.Qe7 Bf6 21.Qe1

[21.Qe4 Qxe4 22.Nxe4 Bd4 23.Bc3]

21...Bg5 22.Bxg5 Qxg5 23.Qe4 g6 24.Qb4 b6 25.dxc6 Bxc6 26.Be4 Bxe4 27.Qxe4 Rc8 28.Re1 Nf6 29.Qa4 d5 30.h3

[30.Qxa7 d4 31.Qa6 Qf5-+]

30...Qf5 31.Re7 Rc4! 32.Qxa7 Qxc2 33.Qxb6 Qc1+! 34.Kh2 Ng4+ 35.hxg4 Qh6+ 36.Kg1! Qc1+ 37.Kh2 Qh6+ 38.Kg1! Qc1+



39.Nd1! Qxd1+= Endgame KQR-KQR. White is a pawn up. **40.Kh2 Qxg4 41.Qb8+ Kg7** (→ ...Qg4-h4+)

[41...Rc8 42.Re8+ Rxe8 43.Qxe8+ Kg7]

42.Qe5+ Deflection

[42.g3 Qd4 43.Qe5+ Qxe5 44.Rxe5 Rc2 45.Kg2]

42...Kh6 ...Qg4-h4+ is the strong threat.

43.Qe3+

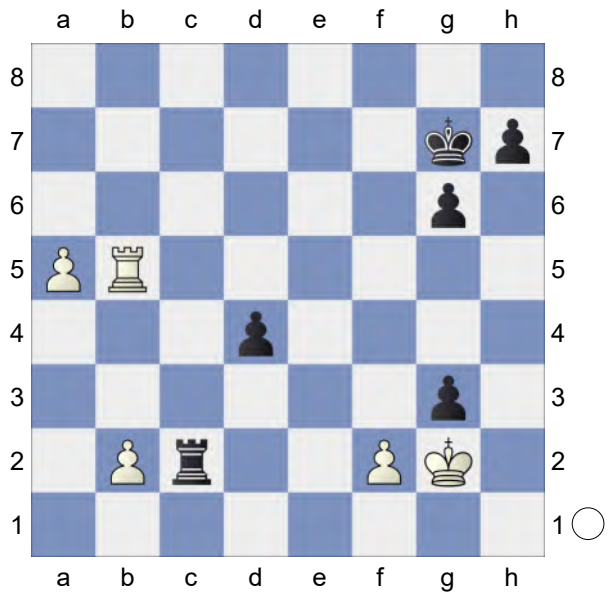
[43.Rxf7? Qh4+ 44.Kg1 Rc1+]

[43.g3 simplifies Qf3 44.Qe2 Qxe2 45.Rxe2 d4 46.Rd2]

43...Kg7 44.g3

[44.Qe5+ Kh6 45.Qe3+ *(45.Rxf7? Qh4+ 46.Kg1 Rc1+)* 45...Kg7 *(45...Qf4+ 46.Qxf4+ Rxf4 47.Re2=)*]

44...Qf5 45.Kg2 d4 46.Qe5+ Qxe5 47.Rxe5 KR-KR **47...Rc2 48.Rb5 f5 49.a4 f4** 0.75/21 **50.a5± fxg3**

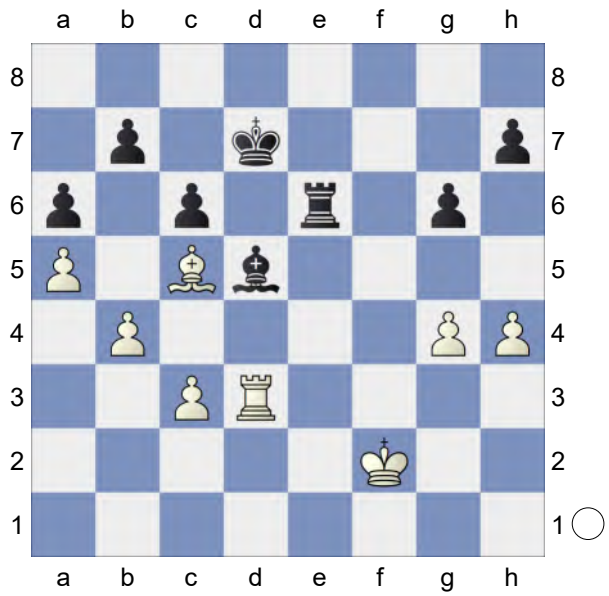


51.Kxg3 0.01/20
[White should play 51.a6!± 0.85/20 Rc1 52.Rb7+ *(52.fxg3 d3=)* 52...Kf6 53.Rb3 *(53.Rxh7 gxf2 54.Kxf2 Rc2+ 55.Kf3 Rxb2=; 53.fxg3 d3=)*]
51...Rc1? 1.65/21
[51...d3= 0.01/20]
52.Rb3 Kf6 2.79/21 This costs Black the game.
[52...Rc8± 1.36/21]
53.a6+- Rc8 54.Kf4 g5+? 4.35/20
[54...h5 1.62/20 keeps fighting. 55.Ke4 h4]
55.Ke4 g4? 5.67/21
[55...h5 3.28/18 56.Rb6+ *(56.Kxd4 h4+-)* 56...Kg7]
56.Ra3 h5? 6.82/19
[56...Ke7 3.29/22 57.a7 *(57.Kxd4 Kd7+-)* 57...Ra8 58.Kxd4 Kd7]
57.b4 Ke6 58.b5 Kd6 7.68/22
[⌓58...Kd7 4.75/19 59.b6 *(59.Kxd4 h4+-)* 59...Re8+ 60.Kxd4 Kc6]
59.Kxd4 h4 60.b6 Strongly threatening b6-b7. **60...h3?** 14.69/17
[60...Rd8 3.98/18 61.Rc3 g3]
61.a7 Intending b6-b7 and mate. **61...h2 62.b7**
[62.a8B Rxa8 63.b7 Rf8= *(63...h1R 64.bxa8Q Rd1+ 65.Ke3 Re1+ 66.Kd2 Rf1 67.Qd8+ Kc6 68.Ra6+ Kb5 69.Rb6+ Kc4 70.Qd3+ Kc5 71.Qd6+ Kc4 72.Rb4#; 63...Rb8 64.Ra6+ Kd7 65.Rh6=)*]
62...h1Q 63.b8Q+ 14.29/18
[63.bxc8R Qd5+ 64.Kc3 Qf3+ 65.Kc2 Qxf2+ 66.Kd1 Qf1+ 67.Kd2 Qg2+ 68.Kc3 Qf3+ 69.Kb2 Qb7+ 70.Rb3 Qxa7= *(70...Qxc8 71.Rb8±)*]
[⌓63.bxc8Q #16/19 Qd5+ 64.Kc3 Qf3+ 65.Kb4 Qe4+ 66.Qc4 Qb1+ 67.Ka5 Qf5+ 68.Qb5]
63...Rc7 64.Ra6+ 10.42/5
[64.a8R Qd5+ 65.Ke3 Qf3+ 66.Kd2 Qxf2+ 67.Kd1 Qf1+ 68.Kd2 Qf2+ 69.Kd1 Qf1+ 70.Kd2 Qf2+=]
[⌓64.Qd8+ #8/18 Rd7 65.Ra6+ *(65.a8R Qd5+ 66.Kc3 Qf3+ 67.Kc4 Qe4+ 68.Kc3 Qf3+ 69.Kd4 Qd5+ 70.Kc3 Qf3+∓)* 65...Qc6 66.a8Q Pin Ke6+ 67.Qxd7+ Back Rank Kxd7 68.Qxc6+ Kd8 69.Ra7 g3 70.Qd7#]
64...Kd7 65.Qb5+
[65.a8R Qd1+ 66.Ke5 Rc5+ 67.Kf6 Qd4+ 68.Kf7 *(68.Kg6 Qd3+ 69.Kf6 Qc3+ 70.Kf7 Qc4+ 71.Kg7 Qc3+ 72.Kh7 Qc2+ 73.Kg7 Qc3+ 74.Kf7 Qc4+ 75.Kg7 Qc3+=)* 68...Qc4+ 69.Kg7 Qc3+ 70.Kh6 Qd2+ 71.Kg7 Qc3+ 72.Kh6 Qd2+ 73.Kg7 Qc3+=]
65...Ke7 66.Qe5+ 15.71/5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.62
[Not 66.a8R Rd7+±]
[⌓66.Qg5+ #5/12 Kd7 67.Qg7+ Skewer *(67.a8B?* is the wrong capture. *Qd1+ 68.Ke5 Rc5+ 69.Kf6 Qd4+ 70.Kg6 Qd3+ 71.Kh6 Rxg5-+)* 67...Ke8 68.a8Q+ Qxa8 Remove Defender 69.Rxa8+ Rc8 70.Rxc8#]
1-0

310 **C65**
□ **Ivic,Velimir** **2620**
■ **Martinez Reyes,Pedro Ramon** **2360**
Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Qe7 7.Nc4 Nd7 8.Be3!?N
The position is equal. A promising side line. Eine vielversprechende Nebenvariante.
[8.Qe2 f6 *(8...a5 9.Ne3 Bxe3 10.Bxe3 c5 11.Nd2 Nf8 12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 Ne6 14.Be3 Nd4 15.Bxd4 cxd4 16.Qf2 c5 17.a4 0-0 18.0-0 Be6 19.Qg3 c4 20.dxc4 Qb4 21.Qd3 Qxb2 22.Rfb1 Qc3 23.Ra3* 0-1 Juhasz,A (2425)-Bodrogi,B (2451) HUN-ch U20 Budapest 2025 (4)*)* 9.c3 a5 10.0-0 Nb6 11.Ne3 Bxe3 12.Bxe3 0-0 13.h3 c5 14.Nd2 Be6 15.f4 Nd7 16.Nf3 Rfd8 17.f5 Bf7 18.c4 Nb8 19.g4 Nc6 20.Rad1 b6 21.h4 Kf8 22.a3 Ke8 1-0 Raines,D (2390)-14. ♔b1 (1994) USSR (ch) 35/658 1983 (11)]
[8.0-0 0-0 9.Bd2 Rd8 *(9...f6 10.a4 Nb6 11.b3 Nxc4 12.bxc4 a5 13.Rb1 b6 14.h3 Rd8 15.Qe2 Be6 16.Kh2 Bb4 17.Bc1 Bf7 18.Nh4 Qd7 19.Nf5 Be6 20.Ng3 Bf8 21.f4 Bd6 22.fxe5 Bxe5 23.Bf4 Qd6 24.Qe3* 1-0 Soto,N (2248)-9.c5 (2238) Obrenovac 95/388 2005 (1.1)*)* 10.Rb1 f6 11.b4 Bd6 12.Nh4 Nf8 13.Nf5 Qf7 14.a4 Ne6 15.b5 cxb5 16.Ncxd6 cxd6 17.axb5 d5 18.exd5 Nc7 19.Qg4 Bxf5 20.Qxf5 Qxd5 21.Rb4 Qd7 22.Qxd7 Rxd7
8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10.g4_ (2585)-Van der Wiel,J (2615) X Open Salou ESP 2008]
8...Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.a4N
[10.Bg5 f6 11.Bd2 Rd8 12.Nh4 g6 0.86/18 *(12...Nc5± 0.32/18)* 13.Kh1 0.48/17 *(*White should play *13.Nxd6±* 0.86/18 *cxd6 14.Qe1)* 13...Nb6 1.07/20 *(13...f5± 0.48/17)* 14.Nxd6± cxd6 15.f4 Be6 1.49/20 *(*Black should play *15...exf4* 1.05/16 *16.Rxf4 Rf8)* 16.f5± gxf5 17.Nxf5 Bxf5 18.Rxf5 1-0 Jodar Arias,M (2209)-Mahip,S (1969) Canadian zt Toronto 2024 (1)]
10...Re8 11.a5 Nf8 12.c3 Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.b4
[14.g4!? Bg6□ 15.Qa4=]
14...a6 15.Qe2
[15.g4!? Bg6□ 16.Qe2±]
15...Rad8 16.Rad1
[16.g4!? Bg6□ 17.Rfe1±]
16...f6 17.g4 Bf7 18.Nh4 g6 Repels Nh4-f5 **19.Ng2 Ne6 20.Nxd6 cxd6 21.f4 exf4 22.Nxf4 d5 23.Nxe6 Qxe6** Black is weak on the dark squares **24.Bd4 dxe4 25.Rxf6 exd3 26.Qxd3 Qxf6 27.Bxf6 Rxd3 28.Rxd3=** KRB-KRB **28...Bd5 29.Kf2 Kf7 30.Bd4 Re6 31.h4 Ke7 32.Bc5+ Kd7?** 5.69/25
[32...Ke8= 0.18/22 and Black stays safe.]

(Diagram)

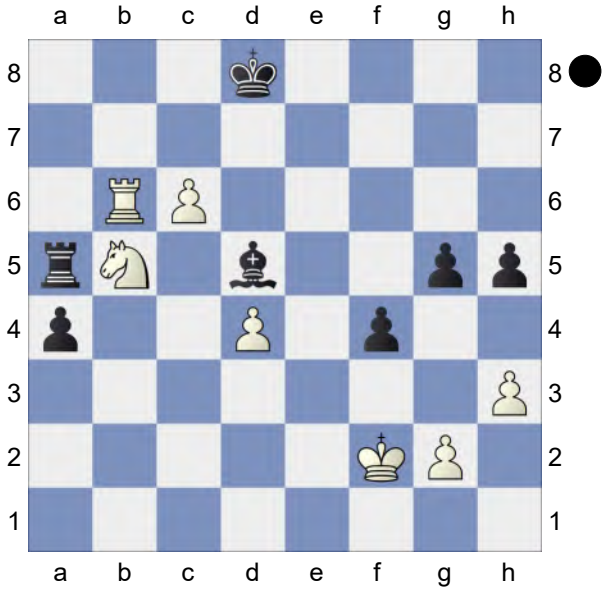


33.c4 Pin. Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.35
1-0

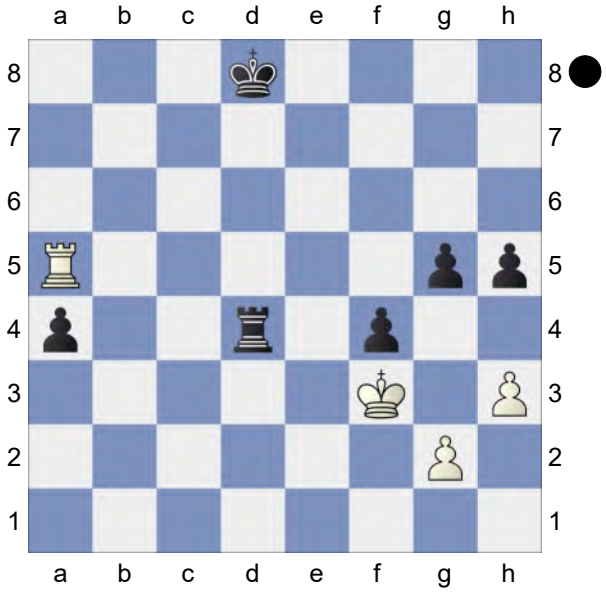
311 **C65**
□ **Juhasz,Agoston Botond** **2425**
■ **Bodrogi,Bendeguz** **2451**
HUN-ch U20 Budapest (4) 06.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.Nbd2**
[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Qe7 7.Nc4 Nd7 8.Qe2 The position is equal.
[8.0-0 0-0 9.Bd2 Rd8 10.Rb1 f6 11.b4 Bd6 12.Nh4 Nf8 13.Nf5 Qf7 14.a4 Ne6 15.b5 cxb5 16.Ncxd6 cxd6 17.axb5 d5 18.exd5 Nc7 19.Qg4 Bxf5 20.Qxf5 Qxd5 21.Rb4 Qd7 22.Qxd7 Rxd7 8.♘b3 0-0 9.f4 ♗e6 10.g4_ (2585)-Van der Wiel,J (2615) X Open Salou ESP 2008]
[8.Be3 Bd6 9.0-0 0-0 10.a4 Re8 11.a5 Nf8 12.c3 Bg4 13.h3 Bh5 14.b4 a6 15.Qe2 Rad8 16.Rad1 f6 17.g4 Bf7 18.Nh4 g6 19.Ng2 Ne6 20.Nxd6 cxd6 21.f4 exf4 22.Nxf4 d5 1-0 Ivic,V (2620)-Martinez Reyes,P (2360) Titled Tuesday intern op 07th Jan Early blitz 2025 (1)]
8...a5 8...b6 gains popularity. 8...b6 wird beliebter. **9.Ne3N**
[9.a4 f6 *(9...b6 10.0-0 Ba6 11.b3 f6 12.Nh4 g6 13.g3 Nf8 14.Be3 Ne6 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.Qe3 Nd4 17.Rfc1 0-0-0 18.Nf3 Bxc4 19.bxc4 Ne6 20.Qxc5 Nxc5 21.h4 Kd7 22.Kf1 Kd6 23.Re1 Ne6 24.Ke2* 0-1 Zhao,Z (2478)-Ponomariov,R (2654) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (3.14) *)* 10.Be3 b6 11.0-0 0-0 -0.01/17 *(11...Ba6∓* -0.37/17 *)* 12.Nh4= g6 Inhibits Nh4-f5. 13.g3 Bxe3 14.Nxe3 Nc5 15.b3 1-0 Deac,B (2693)-Petrosyan,M (2629) Titled Tuesday intern op 06th Jun Early blitz 2023 (5)]
9...Bxe3 10.Bxe3 c5 11.Nd2 Nf8 12.f4 exf4 13.Bxf4 Ne6 14.Be3 Nd4 15.Bxd4 cxd4 16.Qf2 c5 17.a4 0-0 18.0-0 Be6 0.41/18
[18...Ra6= 0.01/20 might be stronger.]
19.Qg3 c4 0.79/21 **20.dxc4±**
[20.Nxc4 Bxc4 21.dxc4 Qxe4=]
20...Qb4 Wards off b2-b3 **21.Qd3 Qxb2** 2.39/23
[21...Rad8± 0.89/21]
22.Rfb1+- Skewer **22...Qc3 23.Ra3 Qxd3 24.cxd3 Bc8 25.Rb5 f5 26.e5 Re8 27.Nb3 Bd7 28.Rxb7**
[28.Rxa5 Rxa5 29.Nxa5 b6=]
28...Rad8 29.Kf2
[29.Nxd4 Bc8 *(29...Rxe5 30.Rb6±)* 30.Rb5 Rxd4 31.Rxa5 Rg4∓]
29...f4 30.Nc5 0.97/20
[30.Nxd4 Bc8 *(30...Rxe5? 31.g3±)*

31.Rb5 Rxd4∓]
[30.Ra7+- 2.00/20]
30...Bf5 2.17/21
[30...Bc8± 0.97/20]
31.Rb5 Rxe5 32.Nb7? 0.27/21
[32.Rxa5 Rde8∓]
[32.Nb3+- 2.05/22 Rde8 33.Nxd4]
32...Rde8= 33.Rxe5
[33.Nxa5 Re2+ 34.Kf1 Re1+ 35.Kf2 Bg4-+ *(35...R8e2+ 36.Kf3∓)*]
33...Rxe5 Endgame KRB-KRN **34.Rb3 Bd7** Inhibits Rb3-b5. **35.Nd6 h5** 1.12/21
[35...h6!= 0.19/19 keeps the balance.]
36.Nb5 0.50/19
[36.Kf3± 1.12/21]
36...Re3 1.39/21
[Black should play 36...h4± 0.50/19]
37.Nxd4± Bxa4 38.Ra3
[38.Rb8+ Kh7=]
38...Bd1 1.91/21
[38...Bd7± 1.46/20 39.Ne2 *(39.Rxa5 Rxd3 40.Ne2 Bg4±)* 39...Re5 40.Nxf4 a4]
39.c5!+-
[39.Rxa5 Rxd3 40.Ne6 Bg4 41.Nxf4 Rd4=]
39...a4 2.51/22
[39...Re5 1.99/21]
40.c6 Re8 41.Rc3 Ra8? 3.71/19
[41...Kf7 1.92/20 was necessary. 42.g3 fxg3+ 43.hxg3 *(43.Kxg3 g5=)* 43...Bg4]
42.Nb5? 1.13/19
[42.h3+- 3.71/19 and the rest is easy. a3 43.c7]
42...Bg4± 43.h3 Bc8 44.Kf3 0.84/20
[44.d4+- 1.71/20 is more deadly.]
44...Kf8 1.32/19
[⌓44...g5 0.84/20]
45.d4! Ra5 46.Na3 0.11/20
[46.Nd6± 1.36/20 Be6 47.Nb7 *(47.Kxf4 a3∓)*]
46...g5= 47.Rc4 -0.01/21
[47.Nc4± 0.51/17 Rb5 48.d5 Decoy *(48.Nd6 Rb3∓)* 48...Rxd5 49.Nb6]
47...Ke7 48.Rb4 Be6 49.Rb6? -1.91/20
[49.c7= -0.16/21 Bd5+ 50.Ke2]
49...Bd5+-+ 50.Kf2 and c6-c7 would now be decisive **50...Kd8 51.Nb5**

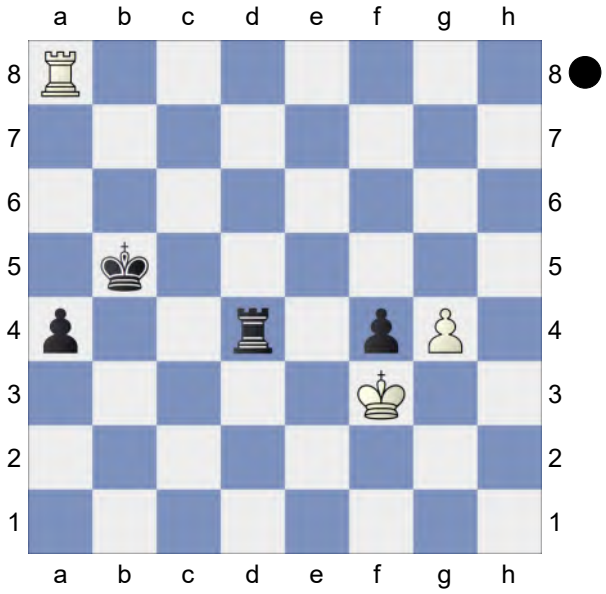


Bxc6 Deflection **52.Rxc6 Rxb5** KR-KR. Black is a pawn up. **53.Ra6** Inhibits Rb5-a5. **53...Rb4 54.Kf3 Rxd4 55.Ra5**

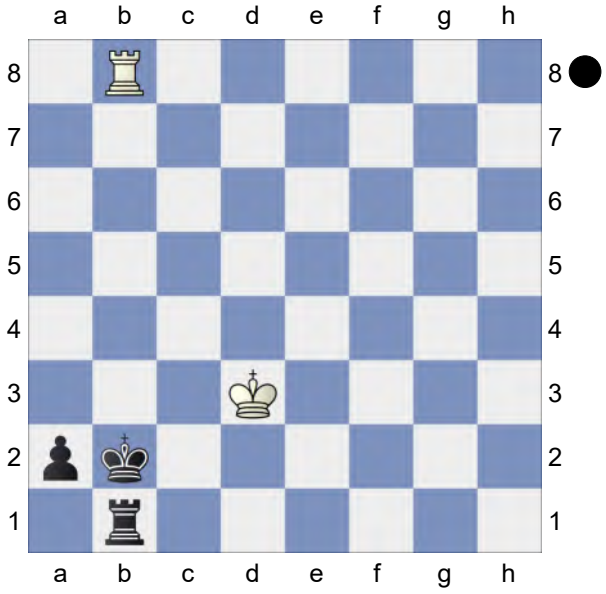


g4+ -0.01/20 **56.hxg4= hxg4+ 57.Kxg4 Kc7 58.Kf3?** -5.45/24 White is now

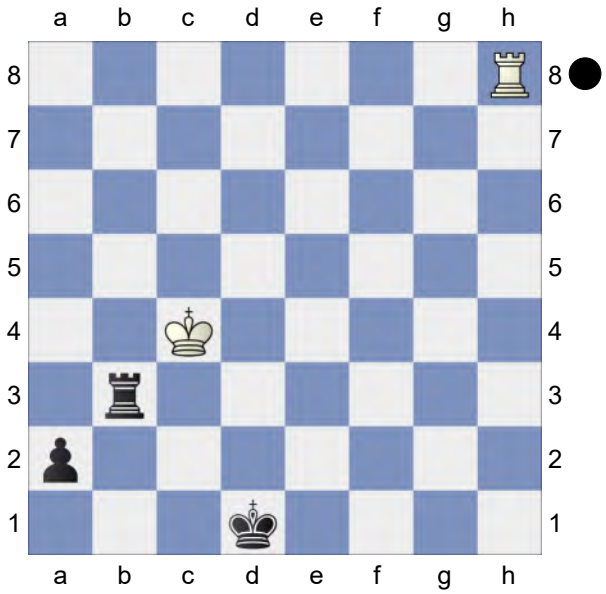
going downhill.
[58.g3!= -0.01/24 and White stays safe.]
58...Kb6-+ 59.Ra8 Kb5 60.g4



fxg3! 61.Kxg3 Re4 62.Kf3 Re6 63.Kf2 Kb4 64.Rb8+ Ka3 65.Rb7 Ka2 66.Rb8 a3 67.Rb7 Ka1 68.Rb8 Re7 69.Rb6 a2 70.Rb8 Rc7 71.Ke2 Rc1
Strongly threatening ...Rc1-b1. **72.Kd3 Rb1 73.Ra8 Kb2 74.Rb8+**



Kc1! 75.Rc8+ Kd1 76.Rh8 Rb3+
[76...a1B 77.Rh1#]
77.Kc4



Rc3+!! Decoy, Promotion **78.Kb4**
[78.Kd5 Rc1]
78...Rc1
[Weaker is 78...a1B 79.Rh1+ Kc2 80.Rxa1=]
[78...Rb3+ 79.Kxb3 Ke2 80.Kxa2 Kd3 81.Rh4 Kc3 82.Ra4 Kc2 83.Ra3]
79.Rh1+ Kc2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.44/Black=0.30
0-1

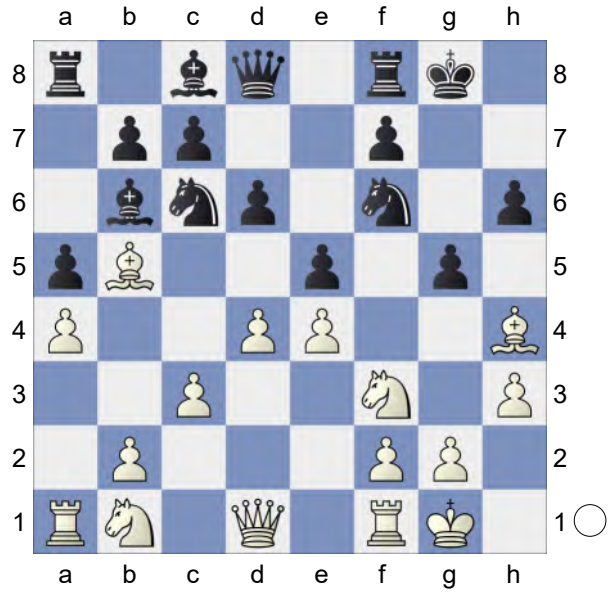
312 **C65**
□ **Durarbayli,Vasif** **2637**
■ **Finegold,B.** **2475**
47th Annual World Open (6.3) 06.07.19
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.d4 Bb6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 d6 9.a4 a5 10.h3N** 0.01/21
[10.Qc1!± 0.64/19]
[10.Re1 Bg4 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.dxe5 dxe5 *(12...Bxf3 13.Qxf3 dxe5 14.Na3* C 65/12 2000*)* 13.Qxd8

Raxd8 14.Nxe5 g5 15.Bg3 Nxe4 16.Nxg4 f5 17.Na3 Nxg3 18.Nxh6+ Kg7 19.hxg3 Rd2 20.Rf1 Rxb2 21.Nc4 Rc2 Ruy Lopez Berlin Defence-3. ♗b5 ♘f6 4.00 ♗c5 5.c3 Survey 2008]

[10.dxe5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 dxe5 12.Nd2 Be6 13.Qc2 Qe7 14.Kh1 Rad8 15.Rad1 c6 16.Be2 Bc7 17.Rfe1 Rd7 18.Nf1 Rfd8 19.Ne3 Bb6 20.Nf5 Bxf5 21.exf5 Ng4 22.Rxd7 Rxd7 23.Bxe7 1-0 Topalov, V (2735)-Shirov,A (2736) Linares 21st 2004 (10)]

10...g5=



11.Nxg5 hxg5 12.Bxg5 exd4 1.28/21

[12...Kg7!± 0.32/22]

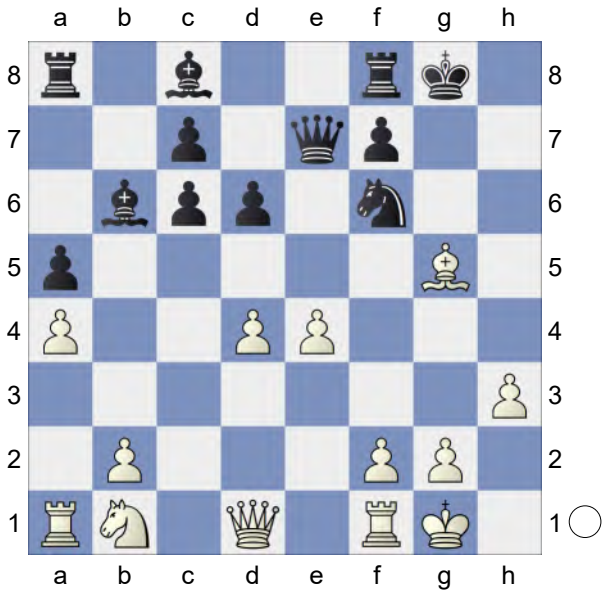
13.Bxc6 0.52/19

[13.cxd4± 1.28/21 Kh7 14.Ra3]

13...bxc6± 14.cxd4 And now Ra3 would win. Black cannot hold the game after this. **14...Qe7?** 4.29/23

[Black should try 14...Re8± 0.65/22]

(Diagram)



15.Ra3!+- Qe6 16.Rg3 Nxe4 17.Re1 Threatening mate with Rxe4!. **17...Nxg3**

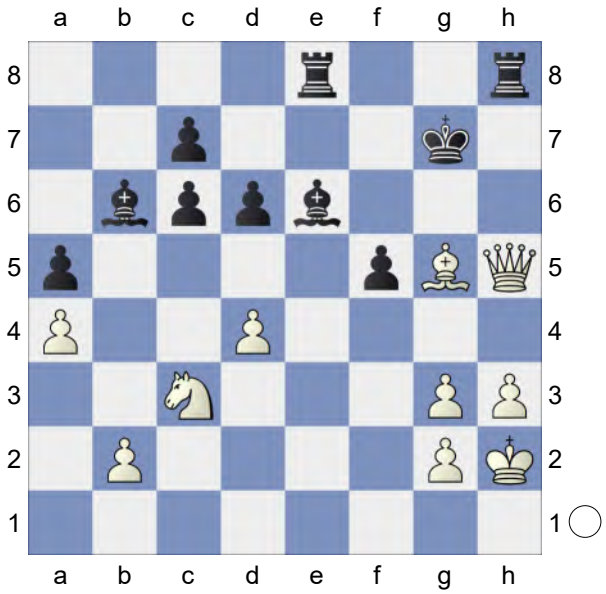
[17...Qg6 18.Rxe4 Bd7 19.Bf6 Bxd4 20.Bxd4 *(20.Rxg6+ fxg6 21.Bxd4 c5+-; 20.Qxd4 Bg4 21.Rexg4* Pin *Rae8 22.Qd2 Re4 23.Rxe4 Qxg3 24.fxg3 Rc8 25.Qg5+ Kh7 26.Rh4#)*]

18.Rxe6 Bxe6 19.fxg3 f5 20.Nc3 Rae8 21.Kh2 Kg7? 8.37/23

[21...Rf7 3.67/23 22.Bc1 Rf6]

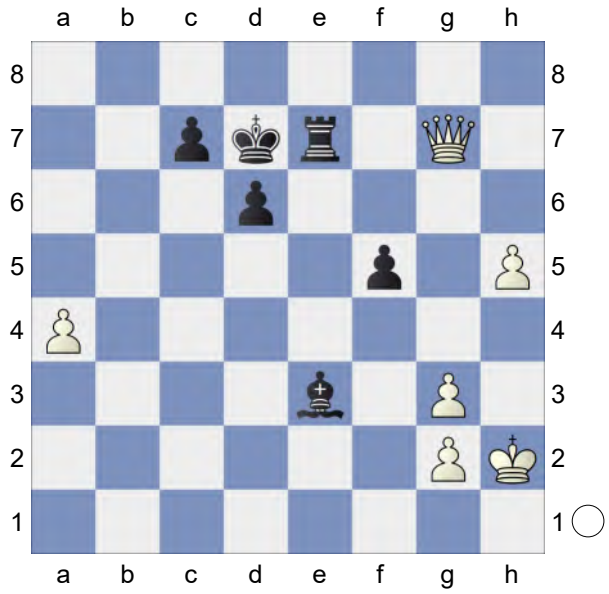
22.Qh5 White is clearly winning.

22...Rh8



Prevents Bh6+. **23.Bh6+!** Deflection

23...Rxh6 24.Qxe8 Bxd4 25.Qxc6 Bf7 26.Ne2 Bb6 27.Qc3+ Kg8 28.Nd4 Rf6 29.Nf3 Re6 30.Ng5 Re5 31.Nxf7 Kxf7 Endgame KQ-KRB **32.b4 axb4 33.Qxb4 Re4 34.Qb3+ Ke7 35.h4 Re1 36.Qc2 Ke6 37.Qc4+ Ke7 38.Qf4 Re5 39.Qg5+ Kd7 40.h5 Be3 41.Qg7+ Re7**



42.h6! c5 43.a5 c4 44.a6 Bxh6 45.Qxh6 Kc6 46.Qf4 Weighted Error Value: White=0.33/Black=0.67 **46...Kd5 1-0**

313 **C48**
□ **Pichot,Alan** **2617**
■ **Przybylski,Wojciech** **2335**
Titled Tuesday intern op 28th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

C48: Four Knights: 4 Bb5, replies other than 4...Bb4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Nc3 Nd4 5.0-0**
[5.Nxd4 exd4 6.e5 dxc3 7.exf6 Qxf6 8.dxc3 Bc5 9.Qe2+ Qe6 10.0-0 0-0 11.Qf3 d6 12.Bg5 Qf5 13.Be7 Qxf3 14.gxf3 a6 15.Ba4 b5 16.b4 Re8 17.Rfe1 Bb6 18.Bb3 Bb7 19.Kg2 d5 0-1 Pink,J (2698)-Hantel,T (2800) Bucuresti 84/120 2002 (2)]
5...Nxb5 6.Nxb5 d6
[6...c6 7.Nc3 d6 8.d4 Qc7 9.Bg5 Be7 10.a4 0-0 11.Qd3 h6 12.Bxf6 Bxf6 13.d5 a5 14.b3 Be7 15.Rad1 Qb6 16.Nd2 f5 17.Nc4 Qc5 18.Qe3 Qb4 19.Na2 f4 20.Qb6 Qxb6 21.Nxb6 ½-½ Ma,G (1787)-Nudo,D (1787) corr MVMG 1000-1899 (BUL) 2024]
7.d4 exd4N
[7...Bd7 8.Nc3 exd4 9.Qxd4 Be7 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 0-0 12.h3 g5 13.Bg3 Bc6 14.Rad1 Nh5 15.Nd5 f5 16.Qc4 Kh8 17.exf5 Rxf5 18.Nxe7 Qxe7 19.Rfe1 Qf7 20.Qc3+ Kg8 21.Nd4 Nxg3 22.fxg3 0-1 Kruml,J-Jacobs,R Missouri op Kansas city 1994 (1)]
8.Nbxd4!? Leaves trodden paths. Verlässt die ausgetretenen Pfade.
8...Be7 9.Re1 0-0 10.c4 c6 0.47/19
[10...Re8= 0.10/18]
11.h3 Re8N White is slightly better.
[11...Be6 0.77/18 11...Bc8-d7 0.28 12.b3 a6 13.Bb2 Nd7 1.04/18 *(13...Bd7± 0.62/19)* 14.Nxe6 fxe6 15.Nd4 Rf6 16.Qg4 0.13/20 *(16.e5± 0.54/17* feels stronger. *dxe5 17.Nf3)* 16...Rg6 17.Nxe6 Qe8 1.19/20 ;0-1 Yunusov,N (2012)-Kvaloy,A (2469) Titled Tuesday intern op 19th Sep Early blitz 2023 (1) *(17...Qc8=* 0.01/21 remains equal. *18.Qf5 Bf6 19.Bxf6 Rxf6)*]
12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 Nh7 14.Bg3 Nf8 0.98/18
[Black should play 14...Bf6± 0.44/19]
15.Qd2 Qb6 16.Rad1 Rd8 17.b3 Ng6 18.Nf5 Bxf5 19.exf5 Ne5 20.Qc3 Nxf3+ 21.Qxf3
[Much weaker is 21.gxf3 Bf6 22.Qc2

Qc5∓]

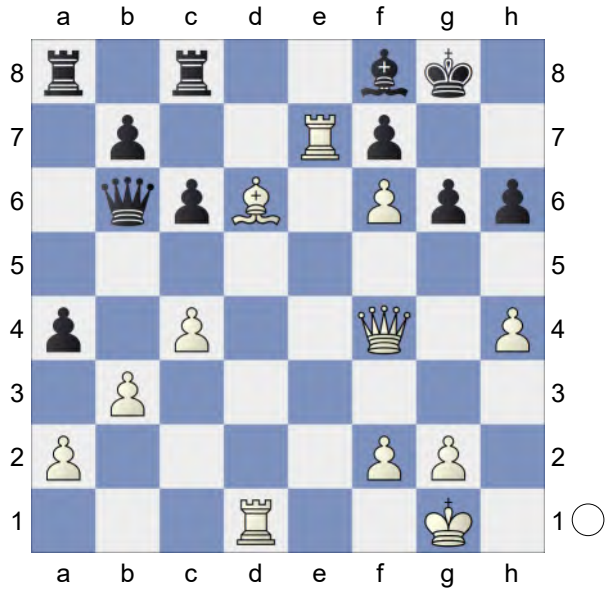
21...Bf8 22.f6 g6 23.Re7↑ White has good play. White is much more active. **23...a5?** 2.87/21 Black cannot hold the game after this.

[23...Qb4± 0.66/19]

24.Bxd6+- Re8 Black is weak on the dark squares **25.Qf4** Re7xe8 would now be deadly. **25...Rec8** 8.06/20

[25...Qd8 2.68/21]

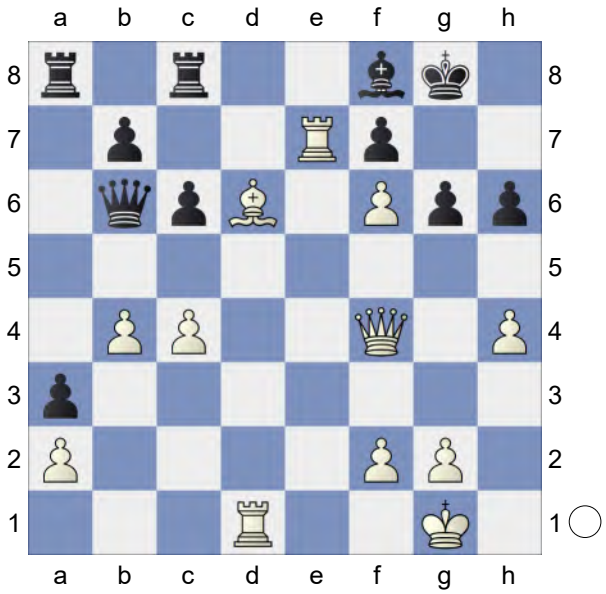
26.h4 a4



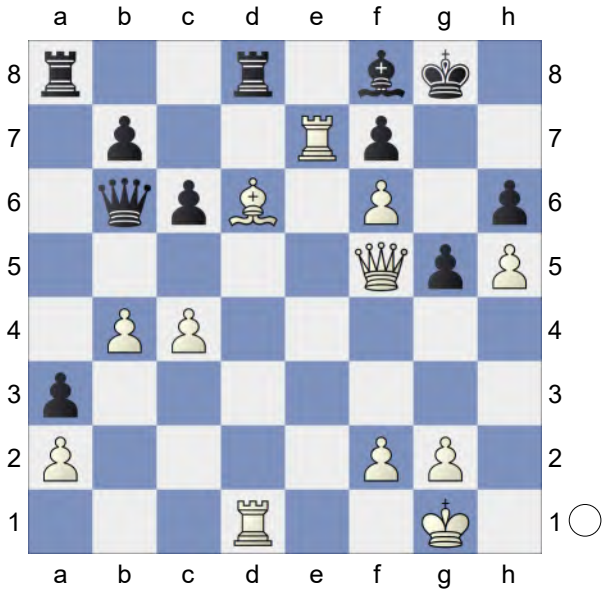
27.b4 Inhibits Qb6-a5. **27...a3**

[27...Rd8 28.a3]

(Diagram)



28.h5! g5 29.Qf5 Re7xf7! would kill now. **29...Rd8**



30.Rxf7! Remove Defender, Decoy. White mates. **30...Kxf7**

[30...Qxf2+ 31.Kxf2]

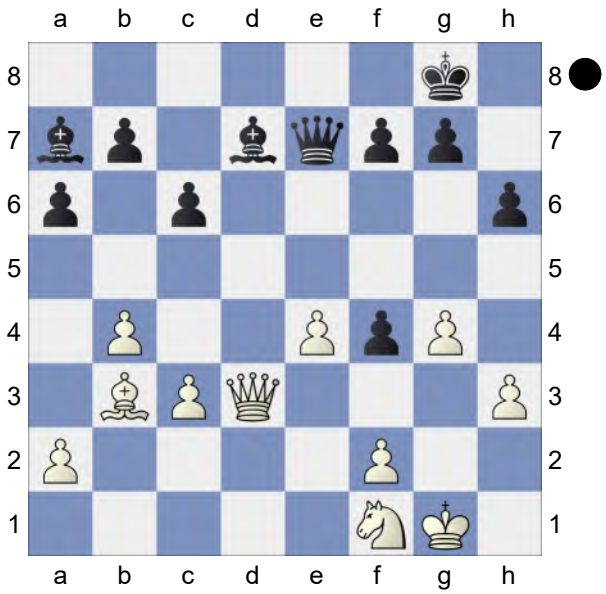
31.Qg6+ Ke6 32.f7+ Kd7 33.Qf5#

Weighted Error Value: White=0.25 (precise) /Black=0.93

1-0

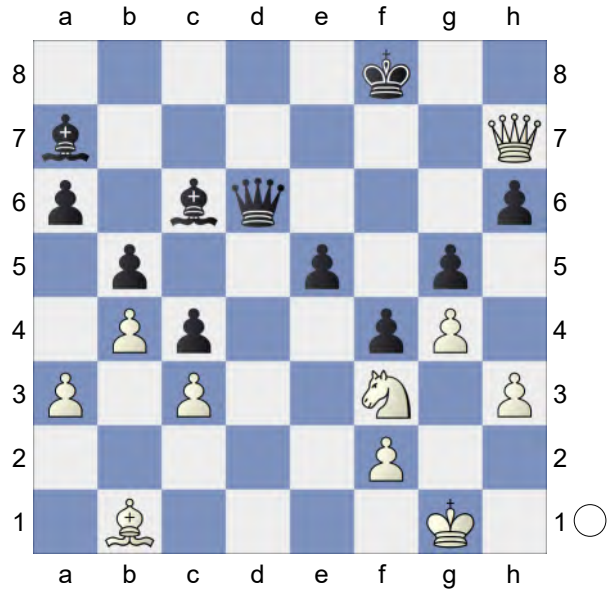
314 **C65**
□ **Maghsoodloo,Parham** **2674**
■ **Labog,Eric Jr** **2291**
Titled Tuesday intern op 21st Jan Late bl..
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Nbd2 d6 6.c3 0-0 7.h3 a6**
[7...Ne7 8.d4 Bb6 9.dxe5 dxe5 10.Qe2 Ng6 11.g3 Qe7 12.Bd3 a5 13.Nc4 Bc5 14.Be3 Rd8 15.Bxc5 Qxc5 16.Ne3 h6 17.0-0-0 Be6 18.Kb1 b5 19.c4 b4 20.Nd5 Nd7 21.Ne1 c6 22.Nc7 ½-½ 11...♕c7 12.♘bd2 cd4 13.c,4 (2803)-Deslandes,P (2787) GER VM001A corr 2001 (4)]
8.Ba4 The position is equal. **8...Ba7 9.Nf1**
[9.0-0 Ne7 10.d4 Ng6 11.Re1 b5 12.Bc2 Bb7 13.Nb3 c5 14.d5 c4 15.Nbd2 Qb6 16.Qe2 Nf4 17.Qf1 Nd7 18.Nb1 f5 19.Bxf4 exf4 20.exf5 Bxd5 21.Nbd2 Rae8 22.a4 Nf6 23.axb5 axb5 1-0 Predke,A (2671)-Jumabayev,R (2577) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (9)]
9...Ne7N
[9...d5 10.Qe2 b5 11.Bb3 d4 12.Ng3 a5 13.Bg5 h6 14.Bd5 hxg5 15.Bxc6 Rb8 16.cxd4 Bxd4 17.Rc1 Rb6 18.Qc2 g4 19.Nxd4 Qxd4 20.hxg4 Nxg4 21.Qd2 Qd6 22.Bd5 a4 23.Nh5 Qe7 24.f3 7 Chapter-Game Chapter 13 Game]
10.g4 -0.48/18
[White should play 10.Ng3= 0.30/18]
10...Ng6∓ 11.Ng3 d5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bxf6 -1.07/20
[13.Bd2∓ -0.69/16]
13...Qxf6∓ 14.Nh5 Qb6 15.Qe2 dxe4 16.dxe4 Be6 17.0-0 Rad8 18.Rfd1 c6 -0.85/23
[⌓18...Rxd1+ -1.40/22 19.Bxd1 Bc4]
19.b4 -1.63/21
[19.Qc2∓ -0.85/23]
19...Rxd1+ -1.07/20
[19...c5-+ -1.63/21 20.Qb2 c4 21.Rxd8 Rxd8]
20.Rxd1 Rd8 -0.93/21
[20...c5! -1.31/21 21.Rd2 cxb4 22.cxb4 Qxb4]
21.Rxd8+ Qxd8 22.Bb3 Bd7 23.Nd2 Qe7 24.Nf1 -1.15/20
[24.Nf3∓ -0.59/19]
24...Nf4 -0.33/21
[24...Nh4∓ -1.15/20 25.Nhg3 g6]
25.Nxf4!∓ exf4 26.Qd3 -0.77/20
[26.Qf3∓ -0.39/20 feels stronger.]



26...g5 0.01/21
[26...h5!∓ -0.77/20 27.Nh2 Bc8]
27.Nd2= Black should prevent e4-e5!.
27...Kg7 28.Nf3 c5 29.a3 b5 And now ...c5-c4 would win. **30.Bc2 c4 31.Qd5 Qe6 32.Qd2** -0.50/20
[32.Qa8= -0.11/23 Qb6 33.Nd4]
32...f6 0.01/23
[32...Bb6∓ -0.50/20]
33.Nd4 Qe7 34.Bb1 Kf8 35.Qc2

-0.58/18
[35.Nf5= 0.01/23 Bxf5 36.exf5]
35...Qe5 0.01/23
[35...h5∓ -0.58/18 36.f3 Qd6]
36.Nf3! Qd6 37.e5 fxe5 38.Qh7 Bc6? 4.07/22
[38...Qb6= 0.01/23 39.Qh8+ *(39.Qxd7 Qxf2+ 40.Kh1 Qxf3+ 41.Kh2 Qg3+* Deflection *42.Kh1 Qxh3#)* 39...Kf7 40.Nxe5+ *(40.Qxe5 Qxf2+ 41.Kh1 Qxf3+ 42.Kh2 Qg3+* Deflection *43.Kh1 Qxh3#)* 40...Ke6 41.Qxh6+ *(41.Bf5+ Kd5=)* 41...Kxe5 42.Qxg5+ Kd6 43.Qxf4+ Ke7]



39.Be4? 0.01/22
[39.Bg6!+- 4.07/22 Qd1+ 40.Kh2]
39...Bxe4 40.Qxe4 Endgame KQB-KQN. Black is a pawn up. **40...Bb8**
[40...Qb6 looks sharper. 41.Qf5+ Kg8 42.Qc8+ Kg7]
41.h4 gxh4 42.Nxh4 -1.44/22
[42.Qb7= 0.01/19]
42...Qf6 0.01/22
[Black should play 42...Qd1+∓ -1.44/22 43.Kh2 Qxg4]
43.Nf5 Qg5 44.f3 Qd8! 45.Nxh6? -3.52/23
[45.Qb7= 0.00/21 and White stays safe.]
45...Kg7?? 2.79/25
[45...Qb6+-+ -3.52/23 and all is fine. 46.Kg2 Qxh6 47.Qf5+ Ke7]
46.Qc6 Ba7+? 3.88/24
[46...e4 2.05/22]
47.Kg2+- Hoping for Nh6-f5+. **47...Qb6** #5/12
[Wrong is 47...Qd2+? 48.Kh3 Qd8 49.Nf5+ *(49.Qxa6 Qd7+-)* 49...Kf7 50.Qb7+ *(50.Qxa6 Qd7+-)* 50...Ke6 51.Qxa7]
[47...Bb8+- 4.47/23 48.Nf5+ *(48.Qxa6 Qd2+ 49.Kh3 Qd7+-)* 48...Kf7]
48.Nf5+ Kf7 49.Qd7+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.48/Black=0.57
1-0

315 **C67**
□ **Sasikiran,Krishnan** **2604**
■ **Yuan,Qingyu** **2380**
Aimchess Play In op rapid (8) 12.06.23
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.h3 Ke8 10.Nc3 h5 11.a4N** Exploring less charted territory. Erkundet wenig bekanntes Terrain.
[11.Bg5 Be6 12.Rad1 Be7 13.b3 Rd8 14.Rxd8+ Bxd8 15.Rd1 Be7 16.Ne2 Bd5 17.Bxe7 Kxe7 18.Ng5 f6 19.Nf4 Rh6 20.exf6+ Kxf6 21.Nxd5+ cxd5 22.f4 d4 23.Re1 Ne3 24.Kf2 Kf5 25.Nf3 c5 Felgaer,R (2573)-Malakhov,V (2706) (m/3-rapid) 112/(191) 2011]
[11.Bf4 Be7 12.Rad1 Be6 13.Ng5

Rh6 14.g3 *(14.Rfe1 Bb4 15.g4 hxg4 16.hxg4 Ne7 17.Nxe6 Rxe6 18.Kg2 Bxc3 19.bxc3 Rd8 20.Rxd8+ Kxd8 21.Rh1 Nd5 22.Bg3 Rh6* Berlin Defence-4...Nxe4 1 e4 e5 ChessPub Guide 2024*)* 14...Bxg5 15.Bxg5 Rg6 16.h4 f6 17.exf6 gxf6 18.Bf4 Nxh4 19.f3 Rd8 20.Kf2 Rxd1 21.Nxd1 Nf5 22.Rh1 Bxa2 23.Rxh5 Be6 24.g4 Nd6 25.Rh7 Nf7 ½-½ Carlsen,M (2876)-Nakamura,H (2802) 125/140 2015]

[11.Ne2 b6 12.Bf4 c5 13.Rad1 Bb7 14.Ng5 Rh6 15.Ng3 Nh4 16.f3 Be7 17.Rfe1 Rg6 18.N5e4 Bc6 19.Kh2 Nxg2 20.Kxg2 h4 21.c4 hxg3 22.Nc3 Rd8 23.Nd5 Rd7 24.b3 Bd8 25.Re4 Bb7 ½-½ Morozov,Y (2645)-Hantel,T (2791) a) 2...d5, 2...Nf6 2018 (3)]

11...a5 12.Rd1 Be7 White has an edge. **13.Ne2 b6 14.Bf4 Be6 15.Ned4 Nxd4 16.Nxd4 c5N** 0.74/23

[Predecessor: 16...g5! 17.Nxe6 fxe6 18.Be3 Rf8 19.g4! hxg4 20.hxg4 Bc5 21.Bxc5 bxc5 22.Rd3 -0.01/21 *(22.Kg2± 0.47/21* should be considered.*)* 22...Rf4 ½-½ Sasikiran, K (2666)-Petrosyan,M (2551) Yerevan Asrian Memorial 11th 2018 (7)]

[16...g5!= 0.21/24 keeps the balance. 17.Nxe6 fxe6]

17.Nxe6± fxe6 18.g4 Rd8 19.Rxd8+ Bxd8± Endgame KRB-KRB **20.Rd1 Be7 21.c4 Rf8 22.Be3 hxg4 23.hxg4 g5 24.Kg2 Rh8 25.b3 Rh7 26.Rd3 Bd8 27.f4** White is more active. **27...gxf4 28.Bxf4 Be7 29.Bd2** 0.35/25

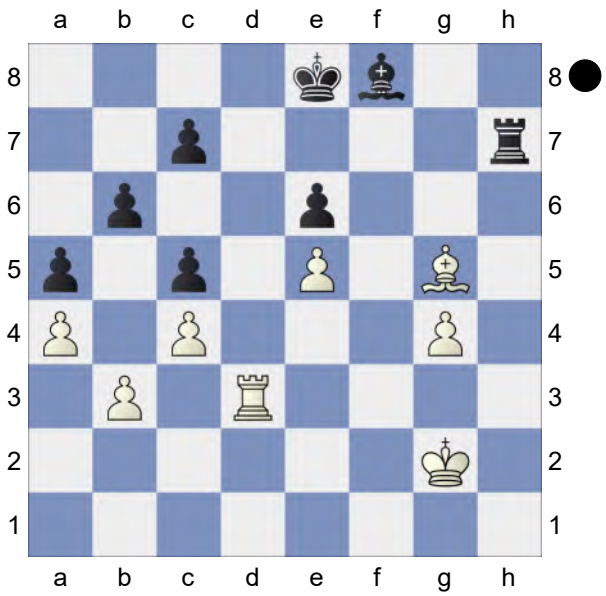
[Better is 29.Rd1± 0.94/25]

29...Bf8? 4.17/24

[29...Rg7± 0.35/25]

30.Bg5+-

(Diagram)



Threatens to win with Rd3-d8+. **30...Rg7** 7.38/27

[⌓30...Be7 4.00/23]

31.Rd8+ Kf7 32.Rd7+? 2.68/29

[32.Rxf8+ 6.98/28 Kxf8 33.Bh6 Pin]

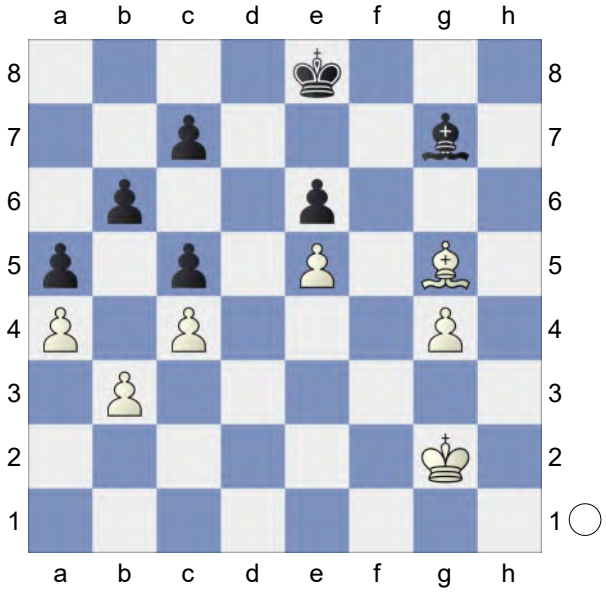
32...Ke8? 8.10/31

[32...Kg6 2.68/29 33.Rxg7+ Bxg7]

33.Rxg7 White is clearly winning.

[33.Rd8+ Kf7 34.Rxf8+ *(34.Rd7+ Kg6=)* 34...Kxf8+-]

33...Bxg7



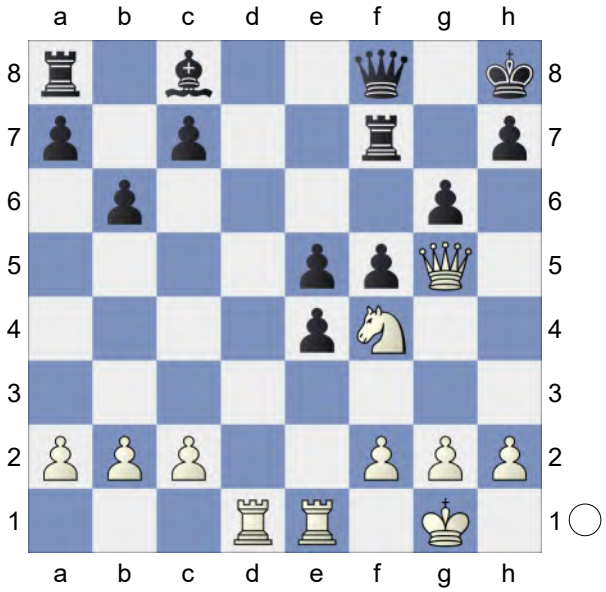
34.Bf6 Bf8 35.Kf3 Kf7 36.Bd8

Weighted Error Value: White=0.25

(precise) /Black=0.86
1-0

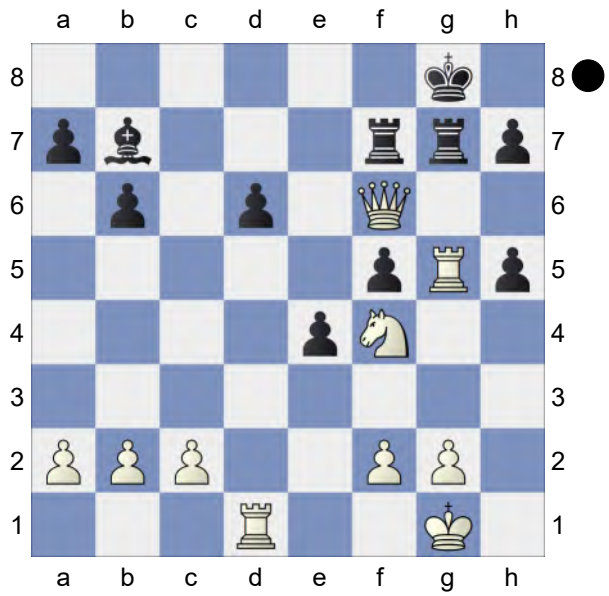
316 **C67**
□ **Naroditsky,Daniel** **2622**
■ **Ippolito,Dean** **2381**
Charlotte op (6) 16.01.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6! 6.Ba4** White has compensation. **6...e4 7.Ne5** now scores much better than the old 7. Re1. punktet besser als das ältere 7. Te1. **7...Be7 8.Nc3** Prevents b5. The position is equal. **8...0-0! 9.Re1 f5 10.Bb3+ Kh8 11.Bf4 Nxe5**
[11...g5 12.Bc1 Bf6 13.h4 g4 14.Bf4 Bxh4 15.Qd2 Bf6 16.Nd5 Ne7 17.Nxf6 Rxf6 18.Bg5 Qf8 19.c4 Ne8 20.c5 d6 21.cxd6 cxd6 22.Bxf6+ Qxf6 23.Nf7+ Kg7 24.Rac1 h6 25.Qf4 Bd7 26.f3 Feys,B (2622)-Karjakin,S (2373) Wijk aan Zee 2023 Inf 73 [John Watson] 1-0 (37) gxf3 27.gxf3 Qg6+ 28.Kf2 Qh5 29.Rh1 Qxf3+ 30.Qxf3 exf3 31.Rcg1+ Kf8 32.Rxh6 d5 33.Ne5 Bb5 34.Rh8+ Ng8 35.Rgxg8+ Ke7 36.Rh7+ Kf6 37.Rg6# 1-0 (37) Naroditsky,D (2622)-Yuan,Q (2373) Chess.com INT 2023]
12.dxe5 Nf7 13.Bxf7 Rxf7 14.Qh5N
[Vorgänger: 14.Nd5 aiming for e6! d6 15.Nxe7 Qxe7 16.exd6 cxd6 17.Bxd6 Qe6 Threatens to win with ... Rd7. 18.Qd4 Bd7 19.Qe5 Re8 20.Qxe6 Bxe6 ½-½ (20) Suran,J (2379)-Slobodjan,R (2490) Germany 2014]
14...Qf8 15.Rad1 -0.38/21
[15.Nb5!= 0.00/25]
15...b6 0.39/22
[15...c6!∓ -0.38/21]
16.Nd5 -0.16/23
[16.Nb5!± 0.39/22]
16...Bd8!= 17.Bg5 g6 18.Qh4 Bxg5 0.08/24
[⌓18...Bb7! -0.27/24]
19.Qxg5 Strongly threatening e6! **19...d6 20.Nf4 Bb7**
[20...dxe5?



21.Nxg6+! *(21.Rd8 exf4 22.Rxf8+ Rxf8+-)* 21...hxg6 22.Rd8+-]
21.exd6 cxd6 22.h4 Qd8 23.Qh6 Qf6 24.Re3 Rg8
[24...Qxb2? 25.Nxg6+ Kg8 26.Nf4+-]
25.Rg3 Rgg7 26.Rg5 &Bianco is more active. **26...Kg8?** 2.51/20 This costs Black the game.
[26...Qxb2? 27.Rxg6 d5 28.Rd6+-]
[26...Rg8± 0.80/22]
27.h5+- gxh5 5.07/24
[27...Qxb2? 28.hxg6 Bd5 29.gxf7++-]
[27...Rf8 2.36/24 28.hxg6 hxg6]
28.Qxf6

(Diagram)



Remove Defender, Deflection. White is clearly winning. **28...Rxf6 29.Rxg7+ Kxg7 30.Nxh5+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.29 (precise)
1-0

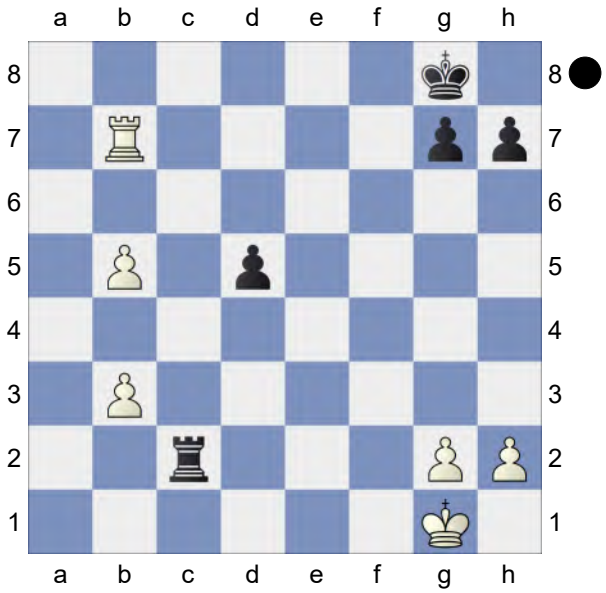
317 **C65**
□ **Munguntuul,Batkhuyag** **2331**
■ **Goryachkina,Aleksandra** **2546**
FIDE Women's Grand Prix - Monaco 202..
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0**
[6.Nxe5? is the wrong capture. Qd4 7.Be3 Qxe5-+]
6...Nd7 7.c3 h6 8.Nbd2 White has an edge.
[8.Re1 0-0 9.Nbd2 Re8 10.Nf1 a5 11.Ng3 a4 12.h3 Nf8 13.Qc2 Qf6 14.Qe2 Ng6 15.Nh5 Qd6 16.Bd2 Bb6 17.d4 exd4 18.cxd4 f5 19.Ng3 Bd7 20.Qc4+ Be6 21.Qc2 fxe4 22.Rxe4 Bd7 1-0 Maghsoodloo,P (2712)-Vidit,S (2739) Chennai Grand Masters 2024 (2.3)]
8...0-0 9.Nc4 Re8 10.Re1N
[10.b4 Bd6 11.Be3 Nf8 12.Nfd2 Ng6 13.Nxd6 cxd6 14.a4 d5 15.Nb3 b6 16.a5 Rb8 17.Qc2 Be6 18.Rfb1 Re7 19.c4 d4 20.Bd2 f5 21.axb6 axb6 22.f3 Rf7 23.Rf1 Kh7 24.exf5 Bxf5 1-0 Molina,R (2855)-10.♗a3 b6 11.ba5 ♘h5_1525 (2758) 109/(48) Russia 2010 (9) 25.Be1 Qg5 26.Rd1 h5 27.Bd2 Qh4 28.Rde1 Ra8 29.Ra1 Raf8 30.Ra6 e4 31.Nxd4 exf3 32.Nxf3 Bh3 33.Rf2 Rxf3 34.gxf3 Rf5 35.d4 Qxd4 36.Ra3 Rf7 37.Re3 Bf5 38.Qc3 Qd8 39.Re1 Rd7 1-0 Carlsen,M (2839)-Vidit,S (2716) Speed Chess Chess.com INT blitz 2023 (1.18) 40.Qe3 Rd4 41.Qg5 Qxg5+ 42.Bxg5 Rxc4 43.Rb2 b5 44.Kf2 c5 45.bxc5 Rxc5 46.Rc1 Rd5 47.Rd2 Rxd2+ 48.Bxd2 Ne5 49.Rc7 b4 50.Rb7 Be6 51.Re7 Nd3+ 52.Ke3 Bc4 53.Kd4 1-0 Carlsen,M (2855)-Karjakin,S (2758) Norway Chess 9th Stavanger 2021 (9)]
10...a5 11.h3 -0.33/22
[11.a4= 0.04/20]
11...a4∓ 12.Ncxe5 Nxe5 13.Nxe5 Bxf2+ 14.Kxf2 Rxe5 15.Bf4 Re6 0.01/21
[15...Qf6∓ -0.45/22 16.Qf3 Re7]
16.Kg1= Rg6 17.Qf3 c5 18.Rf1 Be6 19.a3 Qd7 20.Kh2 Bb3 21.Qe2 Wards off Bc2 **21...Re8 22.c4** -0.56/20
[22.Rf3= -0.10/19]
22...b5 -0.13/23
[22...Rge6∓ -0.56/20 was preferrable.]
23.cxb5 Qxb5 24.Rac1 The position is equal. **24...Qc6 25.Rfe1 Rge6 26.Qf2 Qd7 27.Qg3 Qd4 28.Rc3 Rg6 29.Qe3**

Qxe3 30.Rxe3 Rc6 31.Re1 f5 32.Be3 fxe4 33.Bxc5 Rce6 34.dxe4 Rxe4 35.Rce3 Rxe3 36.Rxe3 Rxe3 37.Bxe3 Kf7 38.Bd4 g6 39.Kg3 h5 40.Kf4 Ke6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.10 (very precise) /Black=0.07 (flawless)
½-½

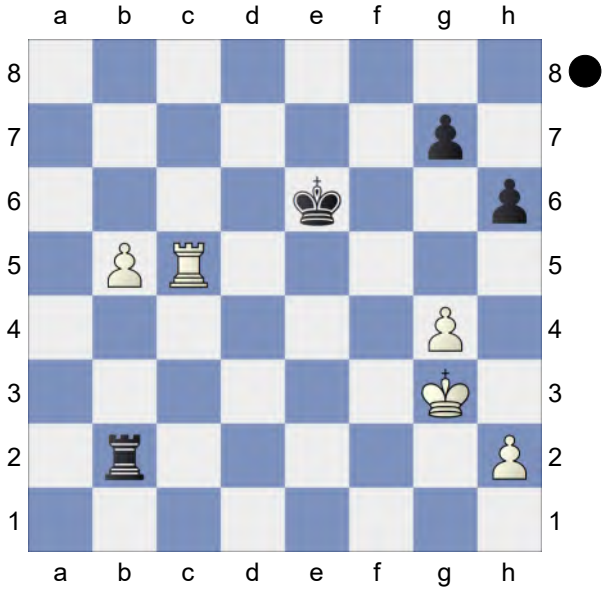
318 **C67**
□ **Fawzy,Adham** **2493**
■ **Tyurin,Artem** **2356**
Masters Open 2024 (4.31) 06.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.dxe5 Nxb5 7.a4 Nbd4 8.Nxd4** Hoping for Re1. **8...d5** seems to push 8...Nxd4 aside. setzt sich inzwischen gegen 8...Sxd4 durch. **9.Nc3**
[9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.Qd3 Qd7 *(10...Be7 11.Qg3 g6 12.Bh6 Rb8 13.b3 Rb4 14.Nd2 Rh4 15.Bg7 Rg8 16.Bf6 g5 17.Rfe1 Be6 18.Qc3 c5 19.Bxe7 Qxe7 20.Qa5 Kf8 21.Qxa7 Kg7 22.a5 Rb4 23.Qa6 c4 24.Qa7 c3 25.Nf3* 1-0 Theis,B (2608)-Sprenger,E (2645) 103/229 London 2008 (10) *)* 11.b3 a5 12.Re1 Bb4 13.c3 Be7 14.Ba3 c5 15.f4 0-0 16.Nd2 Rb8 17.Rf1 g6 18.f5 gxf5 19.Rf3 Rb6 20.Nf1 Rxb3 21.Ne3 d4 22.Nxf5 Rxc3 23.Qe4 Kh8 1-0 Anand,V (2817)-Mamedyarov,S (2746) Corsica Masters rap 15th Bastia rapid 2011 (4.1)]
9...Be7 10.f4 0-0N
[10...Bc5 11.Be3 Bxd4 12.Bxd4 Bf5 13.Bc5 b6 14.Ba3 d4 15.Qf3 Qd7 16.Ne4 0-0-0 17.b4 Kb8 18.Rac1 Qd5 19.Ng3 Qxf3 20.Rxf3 Bg4 21.Rd3 h5 22.h3 Be6 23.h4 Ne7 24.Bb2 c5 25.bxc5 0-1 Liu,Q (2542)-Wen,Y (2588) CHN-chT Div-A Rapid Fuling 2022 (1.3)]
11.Be3 'N'
[11.Nxc6 bxc6 12.Be3 f6 13.exf6 Bxf6 14.Bc5 Re8 15.Qd3 a5 16.Rfe1 Ba6 17.Qd2 ½-½ Berbatov,K (2455)-Matamoros Franco,C (2545) Seville op 35th 2010 (8)]
11...f6 12.Nb3 fxe5 0.00/24
[12...Nb4∓ -0.48/22 13.exf6 Rxf6]
13.Qxd5+= Qxd5 14.Nxd5 Bd6 15.fxe5 Rxf1+ 16.Rxf1 Nxe5 17.Bc5 Bd7 18.Bxd6 cxd6 19.Nd4 Re8 20.Nb5 A dynamic duo of knights. **20...Nc4 21.b3 Ne3 22.Nxe3 Bxb5 23.axb5 Rxe3** Endgame. KR-KR **24.Ra1 Rc3**
[Of course not 24...Re5?! 25.c4± *(25.Rxa7 Rxb5 26.Ra8+ Kf7=)*]
25.Ra2 d5 26.Rxa7 Rxc2 27.Rxb7



And now Rd7 would win. **27...Rb2 28.Rd7** Strongly threatening b6. **28...Rxb3 29.Rxd5 Kf7 30.Kf2 Rb2+ 31.Kf3 Ke6 32.Rc5 Rb3+ 33.Kf4 Rb2 34.Kf3 Rb3+** 0.57/28
[34...Kf6= 0.11/27]

35.Kg4 0.01/28
[35.Ke4± 0.57/28]
35...Rb2 36.Kh3 Rb3+ 37.g3 Rb2 38.g4 Kd6 39.Rh5 h6 40.Kg3 Rb3+ 41.Kf4 Rb4+ 42.Kf3 Rb3+ 43.Kf2 Ke6 44.Rc5 Rb2+ 45.Kg3



Black must now prevent Rc6+. **45...Rb3+ 46.Kh4 Kf6 47.Rf5+ Kg6 48.Rc5 Kf6** (→ ...g5+) **49.g5+ hxg5+ 50.Rxg5 Rb4+ 51.Kh5 Rb2 52.h4 Rb4 53.Rg6+ Kf7 54.Rb6 Rb1 55.Kg5 Rg1+?** 5.61/22
[55...Rd1= 0.03/21 and Black stays safe.]
56.Kf5+- Rf1+ 57.Ke5 Rh1 58.Rb7+ Kg6 59.b6 Rxh4 60.Rc7 Rh8 61.b7 Rb8 62.Kd6? 0.00/41
[White should try 62.Re7+- 8.23/19 Rd8 63.Rd7 Re8+ 64.Kd6]
62...Kf6!= The position is equal. **63.Rd7 g5 64.Kc7 Rxb7+! 65.Kxb7** KR-KP **65...Ke5!** Against Rd5+ **66.Rg7 Kf4 67.Kc6** Kd5 would kill now. **67...g4 68.Kd5** White threatens Kc4 and mate. **68...g3 69.Kd4 Kf3 70.Kd3 g2 71.Kd2** Threatening mate with Ke1. **71...Kf2 72.Rf7+ Kg3! 73.Rg7+ Kf2 74.Rf7+ Kg3! 75.Ke2** Intending Rg7+ and mate. **75...g1Q 76.Rg7+ Kh2 77.Rxg1 Kxg1** Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.18 (very precise) Blacks defense is rewarded with a draw. Weighted Error Value: White=0.05 (flawless) /Black=0.18 (very precise)
½-½

319 **C67**
□ **Narva,Mai** **2398**
■ **Bulmaga,Irina** **2386**
EU-ch rapid (Women) (8) 12.01.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4** -0.01/21
[6.Nxe5± 0.43/18 Be7 7.Bf1]
6...Be7= 7.Nc3 0-0 7...a6 is more advanced technology. 7...a6 ist hochmodern. **8.Nxe5N**
[8.d4
A) 8...Nxd4 9.Nxd4 exd4 10.Nd5 Re8 *(10...Bf6 11.Bd3 g6 12.Bf4 b6 13.Bxd6 cxd6 14.Qf3 Bg5 15.Ne7+ Bxe7 16.Qxa8 Bf6 17.Qxa7 Be5 18.b4 Re8 19.a5* 1-0 Solovieva,L (1273)-Goodman,C (1211) Groningen_159811 1995 (8) *)* 11.Qg4 f5 12.Qxd4 Bf6 13.Nxf6+ Qxf6 14.Bc4+ Kh8 15.Rxe8+ Nxe8 16.Qe3 Qf8 17.b3 Nf6 18.Bb2 d5 19.Bd3 c5 20.Bxf6 gxf6 21.Qf3 Be6 22.Bxf5 Bg8 23.Re1 ½-½ Grandelius,N (2672)-Howell,D (2646) Sverige -(m/1) 152/125 2022;
B) 8...Nxb5 9.axb5 Nxd4 10.Nxd4 exd4 11.Nd5 Bf6 12.Bf4 d6 13.b6 cxb6 14.Qf3 Bf5 15.Re2 Rc8

16.Rxa7 Rxc2 17.Rxc2 Bxc2 18.h3 Be5 19.Rxb7 d3 20.Rxb6 Re8 21.Rc6 h6 22.Nc3 Qf6 0-1 Nikulina,A (1875)-Guimaraes,D (2299) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (9)]

[8.Nd5 e4 9.Bxc6 dxc6 10.Nxe7+ Qxe7 11.d3 f5 12.Bf4 Bd7 13.Nd2 Rad8 14.Qe2 Qf6 15.c3 exd3 16.Qxd3 Be6 17.Qe3 Rde8 18.Qxa7 Qg6 19.f3 Bd5 20.b3 Ra8 21.Qf2 Rfe8 22.c4 Bf7 1-0 Smeets,J (2552)-Bulmaga,I (2386) EU-ch Blitz Skopje 2024 (12)]

8...Nxe5 9.Rxe5 c6 10.Bd3 Ne8 11.b3 d6N -0.02/20

[11...Nf6 12.Qf3 d5 13.h3 *(13.Rxe7!? Qxe7 14.Ba3∓)* 13...Be6 14.Re1 Re8 15.Bb2 Nd7 16.Ne2 Nc5 17.Ng3 Nxd3 18.Qxd3 1-0 Sevillano,E (2562)-Shivaji,S (2282) Reno Far West op 2007 (2)]

[11...d5∓ -0.42/18]

12.Re1= d5 13.Bb2 Nd6 14.Qf3 Be6 15.Ne2 Bf6 0.91/20

[15...Re8= 0.22/18]

16.Bxf6± Qxf6 17.Qxf6 gxf6 18.Ng3 f5 19.Re5 Kg7 20.Rae1 White is much more active.

[20.Bxf5 Nxf5 *(20...Kf6 21.Rxe6+ fxe6 22.Bxh7=)* 21.Rxf5 *(21.Nxf5+ Kf6∓)* 21...Bxf5 22.Nxf5+ Kg6 23.Nh4+ Kf6∓]

[20.Nxf5+ Bxf5 21.Rxf5 *(21.Bxf5? Kf6-+)* 21...Nxf5 22.Bxf5 Rfe8∓]

20...Kf6 2.50/21

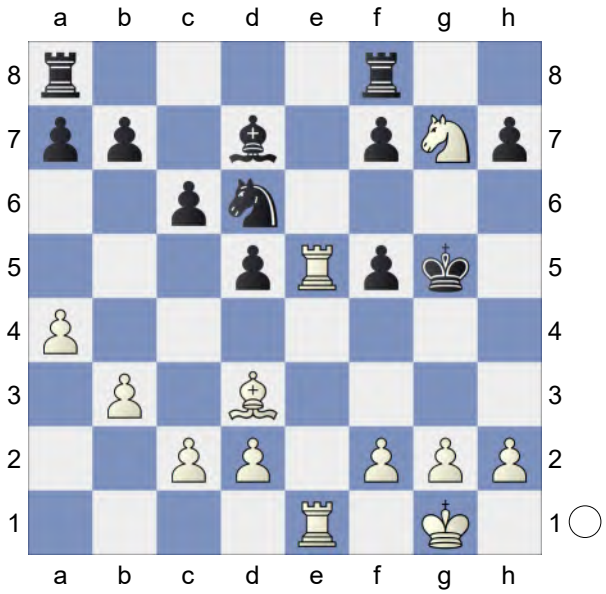
[20...Kg6± 0.77/18]

21.Nh5+!+- Kg5 22.Ng7 1.08/22

[22.Rxe6!+- 2.90/20 White threatens f2-f4+ and mate. fxe6 23.Rxe6]

22...Bd7±

(Diagram)



23.h4+? -0.84/21 **Kg6!∓ 24.Nxf5 Bxf5**

[24...Nxf5? 25.g4+-]

25.Rxf5 Nxf5 26.Re5 f6 -0.50/22

[26...Rae8∓ -0.98/22 27.Rxf5 Re1+ 28.Kh2 Kg7]

27.Rxf5∓ Endgame KRR-KRB **27...Kg7 28.g4** -1.16/22

[28.Kf1∓ -0.46/21]

28...Rae8∓ 29.Rh5 -1.82/23

[29.Kf1∓ -1.17/21]

29...h6 -1.34/22

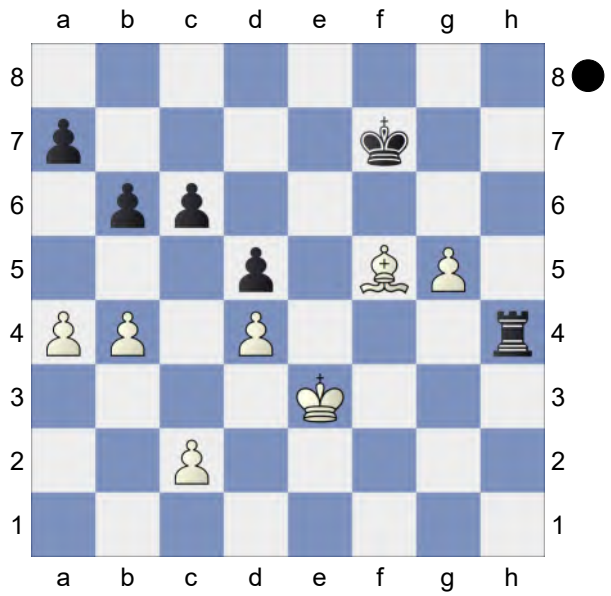
[29...Re1+-+ -1.82/23 30.Kg2 h6]

30.f4 Re1+! 31.Kf2 Rd1 32.Ke2 -1.63/23

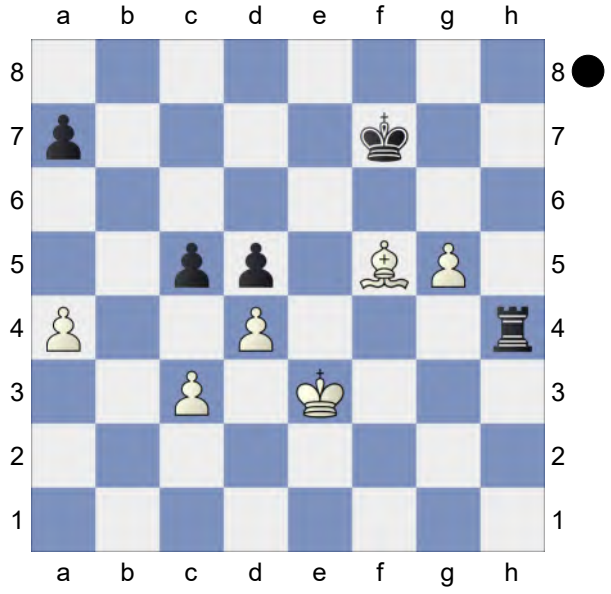
[32.Ke3∓ -1.19/22 was necessary.]

32...Rg1-+ 33.g5 fxg5 34.fxg5 Rh8 35.Ke3 hxg5 36.Rxg5+ Rxg5 37.hxg5∓ KR-KB **37...Rh4 38.Bf5** Inhibits Rh4-g4. **38...b6 39.d4 Kf7 40.b4**

(Diagram)



c5? -0.20/25 **41.bxc5= bxc5 42.c3** -4.32/26
[42.dxc5= -0.01/24 and White stays safe. Rxa4 43.Bd3]



42...cxd4+!-+ 43.cxd4 a5 44.Bd7? -4.54/29
[44.g6+ -2.37/31 Kf6 45.Bd7]
44...Ke7? -1.42/29
[44...Re4+-+ -4.54/29 is more deadly. 45.Kd3 Ke7]
45.Bf5∓ Kd6 -0.47/29
[45...Rh2∓ -1.46/26 and ...Rh2-h4 should not be overlooked 46.Bg4 Ra2]
46.g6∓ Rh1 -0.01/32
[46...Ke7∓ -0.49/29 feels stronger. 47.g7 Kf7 48.Be6+ Kxg7 *(48...Kxe6? 49.g8Q+ Kf5 50.Qxd5+ Kg6 51.Qe6+ Kh5 52.d5+-)* 49.Bxd5 Rh3+ 50.Ke4 Kf6]
47.Kf4= Rg1 48.Bg4 g6-g7 is the strong threat. **48...Ke7 49.Kf5! Kf8** -0.01/29
[Black should play 49...Rg2∓ -0.52/30]
50.Be2! The position is equal. **50...Kg7 51.Bb5**
[51.Ba6 keeps more tension. Re1 52.Bb7 Re4 53.Bxd5 Rxd4 54.Bc6]
51...Rxg6 52.Ke5 Rg5+ 53.Kd6 Kf6 54.Bc6 Rg8 55.Kxd5 Ke7 56.Kc5 Rb8 57.d5 Rb4 58.d6+ Kd8 59.Bb5 Rb1 60.Kb6 Rd1 61.d7 Rxd7 What a bad dream for Black. Weighted Error Value: White=0.31/Black=0.27 (precise)
½-½

320 **C65**
□ **Zou,Chen** **2449**
■ **Tyurin,Artem** **2356**
Masters Open 2024 (6.34) 09.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.h3**
[7.Nbd2!?]
7...Bb6 8.Re1 Ne7 9.d4 9.d4 scores better than 9.Nbd2. 9.d4 punktet besser als 9.Sbd2. **9...d5** The position is equal. **10.Nxe5 Nxe4 11.Nd2 Nd6 12.Bd3 f6 13.Nef3 Bf5 14.Nb3**
[14.Nf1 Ng6 15.Ng3 Bxd3 16.Qxd3

Qd7 ½-½ Nikolin,Z (2394)-Hedman,J (2405) Oakham 2000 (3)]

14...Ng6N

[14...Bxd3 15.Qxd3 Ng6 16.Nc5 Re8 17.Bd2 c6 18.b3 Qc7 19.Rxe8+ Rxe8 20.Re1 Rxe1+ 21.Nxe1 Bxc5 22.dxc5 Ne4 23.b4 Ne5 24.Qc2 Nc4 25.Nf3 Ncxd2 26.Nxd2 Qe5 27.Nxe4 Qxe4 28.Qd1 Qc4 29.Qg4 0-1 Grischuk,A (2766)-So,W (2778) Leuven (rapid) 137/113 2018 Qxg4 30.hxg4 Kf7 31.Kf1 f5 32.gxf5 h5 33.Ke2 Kf6 34.Ke3 Kxf5 35.Kf3 g6 36.a4 a6 37.g3 g5 38.g4+ hxg4+ 39.Kg3 Ke4 40.Kxg4 Kd3 41.Kxg5 Kxc3 42.f4 d4 43.f5 d3 44.f6 0-1 Ernst,H (2766)-Sudgen,J (2778) TUR-chT Kigali 2008 d2 45.f7 d1Q 46.f8Q Qg1+ 47.Kh6 Qh2+ 48.Kg6 Qg3+ 49.Kh6 Qh4+ 50.Kg6 Qg4+ 51.Kh6 Qe6+ 52.Kg7 Qe5+ 53.Kg6 Kxb4 54.Qf7 Qg3+ 55.Kh6 Qe3+ 56.Kg7 Qc3+ 57.Kh7 Qc2+ 58.Kh6 Qc1+ 59.Kg7 7 Chapter C50-Games Chapter C50 Game]

15.Nc5 Strongly threatening Bxf5.

15...Qc8 16.Bxf5 Nxf5 17.Qd3 aiming for Ne6. 'N'

[17.Qc2 Bxc5 18.dxc5 Qd7 19.Be3 Rfe8 20.Rad1 Nxe3 21.Rxe3 Rxe3 22.fxe3 Qe7 23.Rxd5 Qxe3+ ½-½ Akdag,M (2569)-Voiculescu,C (2447) W-ch36 q03 email 2016]

17...Nd6 18.b3 c6 19.Ba3 Bxc5 20.Bxc5 Qd7 21.Bxd6 Qxd6 22.Qf5 Rfe8

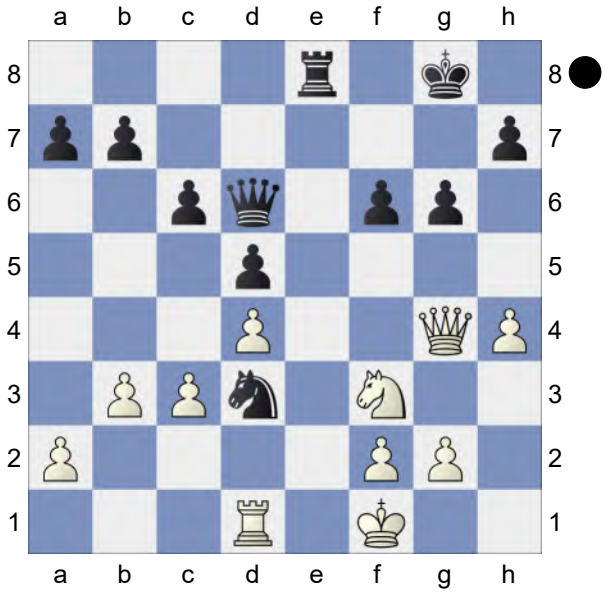
[22...Rad8 simplifies 23.Qg4 Qd7 24.a4 Qxg4 25.hxg4 h6]

23.h4 Nf4 24.Kf1 Prevents Ne2 **24...g6**

[24...Rxe1+ simplifies 25.Rxe1 g6 26.Qg4 Nh5]

25.Qg4 Nd3 26.Rxe8+ Rxe8 27.Rd1? -1.87/26

[27.h5= 0.00/24 and White is okay.]



27...Qe7!-+ ...Qe2+ is the strong threat. Black is clearly better. **28.Rxd3 Qe2+ 29.Kg1 Qxd3 30.Qd7 Qb1+** Weighted Error Value: White=0.15 (very precise) /Black=0.02 (flawless)

½-½

321 **C67**

□ **Bortnyk,Olexandr** **2608**

■ **Serban,Cristian Stefan** **2309**

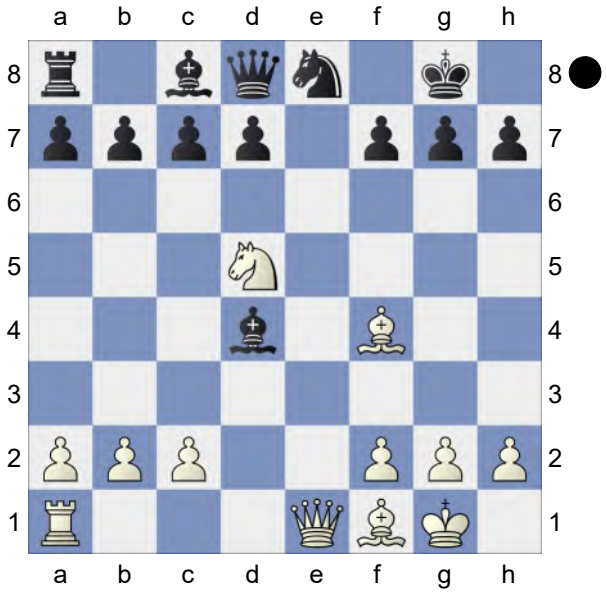
Titled Tuesday intern op 16th Jan Late bl..

[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Kitty Kat: 'C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 ' Current Reputation: Playable for both sides **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6 10.Re1 Re8** 10...Re8 is better than 10...Nf5. 10...Te8 ist besser als 10...Sf5. **11.Bf4 Rxe1 12.Qxe1 Ne8** White has an edge. **13.Nc3** -0.01/20

[13.c3± 0.38/18]

13...Bxd4= 14.Nd5



c6 0.41/21

[14...d6!= -0.25/20 15.Bg5 f6 16.Bh4 Bxb2 17.Rb1 Be5 18.f4 Be6 19.Bc4 Bd4+ 20.Kh1 Bf7 21.Qe4 Bc5 22.Ne7+ Kf8 23.Qxh7 Bxc4 24.Re1 Qxe7 25.Rxe7 Kxe7 26.Qe4+ Be6 27.f5 Rd8 28.g4 c6 29.g5 Kf8 1-0 Firouzja,A (2759)-Maghsoodloo,P (2740) Tata Steel Masters 2024 (2)]

15.Rd1N -0.01/18 An interesting side line. Eine interessante Nebenvariante.

[15.Ne7+± 0.41/21 is superior. Kf8 16.Nxc8 Qf6 17.Qb4+ *(17.Rd1 Rxc8 18.Qe4 Bc5 19.Rxd7 Rd8 20.Rxd8 Qxd8 21.c3 Qf6 22.Qe5 Qxe5 23.Bxe5 Nf6 24.Bxf6 gxf6 25.g4 h6 26.Kg2 f5 27.gxf5 Bd6 28.h4 Bf4 29.Kf3 Bc1 30.b3 Bd2 31.c4 Ke7* ½-½ Lu,M (2441)-Li,R (2318) TCh-CHN Div A Finals 2024 (3.1) *)* 17...c5 18.Qd2 Rxc8 19.Re1 g5 20.Bxg5 Bxf2+ 21.Qxf2 Qxg5 Renzewitz,S (2607)-Skalusevic,L (2676) 33/208 Mar del Plata 1982 22.Bb5 Nd6 23.Bxd7 Rd8 24.h4 Qg7 25.Bf5 Nxf5 26.Qxf5 Qd4+ 27.Qf2 Rd6 Lopez,R-Berlin Defense, W 376 Linz 2012]

15...Bc5 16.b4 -0.68/20

[Better is 16.Bg5= 0.00/20 f6 17.Be3 Bxe3 18.Nxe3]

16...Bf8∓ 17.Ne3 d5 18.c4 Be6 -0.16/19

[Black should try 18...Nf6∓ -0.68/20]

19.cxd5= cxd5 20.Bc4 -1.30/21

[20.Nxd5= -0.23/18 keeps the balance. Bxd5 21.Qd2]

20...Qb6N 0.15/21

[Vorgänger: 20...Qf6 21.Nxd5 Bxd5 22.Be5 Bxc4 23.Bxf6 Nxf6 24.a4 -1.79/20 *(24.Qc3∓ -1.31/19 Bxa2 25.Qf3)* 24...Bb3 aiming for ...Ra8-e8!. 25.Ra1 Rd8 26.h3 b6 1-0 Vachier Lagrave,M (2779)-Nakamura,H (2777) chess.com Speed 3m+1spm 2018 blitz (2.16)]

[20...Qf6∓ -1.30/21 21.Nxd5 Bxd5]

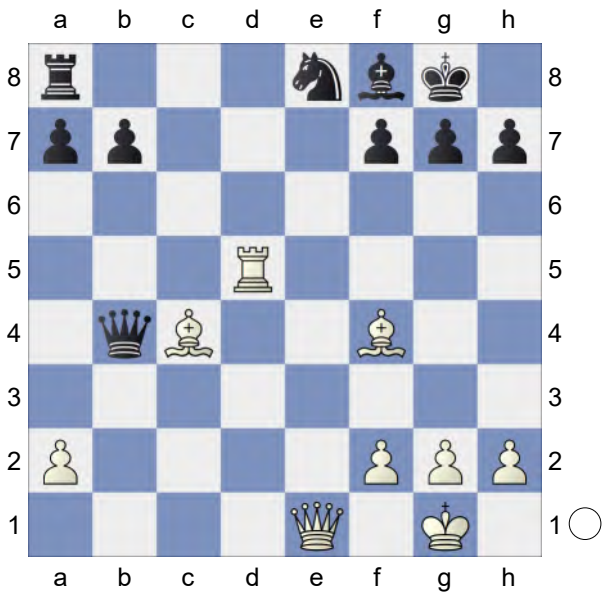
21.Nxd5=

[21.Bxd5 Bxb4 *(21...Qxb4? 22.Qxb4 Bxb4 23.Bxb7+-)* 22.Qf1 Nf6∓]

21...Bxd5 22.Rxd5 Black must now prevent Rd5-d7. **22...Qxb4?** 2.17/21

[22...Nf6= -0.07/19 and Black has nothing to worry. 23.Be3 Bxb4]

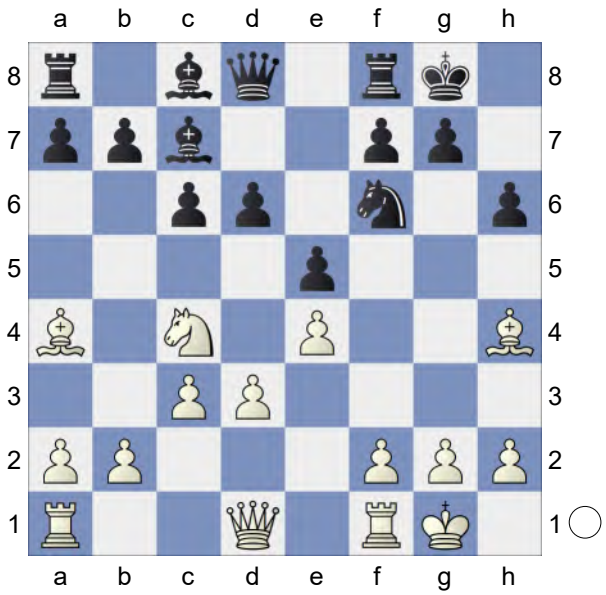
(Diagram)



This costs Black the game. **23.Qxb4+- Bxb4 24.Rd7 Rc8 25.Bxf7+** This pair of bishops is nice. **25...Kf8?** 4.32/22
[25...Kh8 2.61/22 26.Rxb7 Bc5]
26.Bb3
[Not 26.Rxb7 Nd6 27.Rxb4 Kxf7+-]
26...Be7 27.Rxb7 a5 28.g3 Ra8 29.a4 h6 30.h4 g5 5.19/22
[30...Nd6 3.44/22 was called for.]
31.hxg5 hxg5 32.Be5 Nd6 33.Rb6 Ne4 7.75/23
[33...Rd8 3.41/22 34.Bc3 Ne4]
34.Rh6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.34/Black=0.74
1-0

322 **C65**
□ **Licznerski,Lukasz** **2414**
■ **Sieciechowicz,Marcin** **2398**
Warsaw Szansa blitz op (13) 16.09.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.Na3!** is recently more successful than 8.Bg5. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 8.Lg5. **8...c6 9.Ba4** The position is equal. **9...0-0 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 d6 12.Nc4 Bc7**



and ...g7-g5 would now be decisive **13.Bb3 d5N** 1.13/21
[13...Qe7= 0.28/18]
[13...g5 14.Bg3 Bg4
A) 15.f3 Be6 16.Re1 *(16.Ne3 Nh5 17.Bf2 d5 18.g3 Nf6 19.Qe2 Re8 20.Rad1 a5 21.Ng2 a4 22.Bc2 a3 23.b3 d4 24.cxd4 exd4 25.h4 Ra5 26.hxg5 hxg5 27.Qd2 Nh5 28.b4 Ra8 29.f4 gxf4 30.gxf4 Bg4* 1-0 Pranav,V (2545)-Darini,P (2405) Titled Tuesday intern op 31st Jan Late blitz 2023 (2)*)* 16...Nh5 17.Bf2 Nf4 18.d4 exd4 Warlick,J (2764)-Hantel,T (2781) FRA Cup 1/4 Rouen 1991;
B) 15.Qc2 Nh5 16.Ne3 Bd7 17.d4 Qe7 18.Rad1 Rad8 19.f3 Nxg3 20.hxg3 Kg7 21.f4 exf4 22.gxf4 gxf4 23.Rxf4 d5 24.Nf5+ Bxf5 0-1 Efimenko,Z (2666)-Arizmendi Martinez,J (2534)

Gibraltar Masters 2006 (4)]

14.Nd2 -0.01/21

[White should play 14.exd5± 1.13/21 cxd5 15.Ne3]

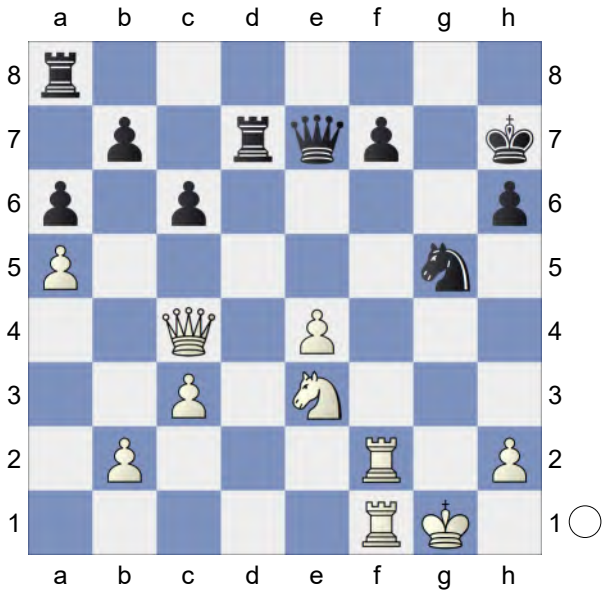
14...g5=

[Vorgänger: 14...Qd6 0.42/22 14...g7-g5 -0.10 15.Bxf6 gxf6 16.Qh5 Kh7 0.99/20 *(Black should play 16...a5± 0.46/20)* 17.Rae1 0.01/19 *(17.exd5± 0.99/20 cxd5 18.f4)* 17...a5? 1.63/19 *(17...Rg8= 0.01/19* and Black is okay.*)* 18.a3? 0.00/19 *(18.exd5+- 1.63/19* Black must now prevent Nd2-e4. *cxd5 19.f4)* 18...a4 19.Bc2 -0.27/18 *(⌓19.Bd1 0.13/19)* 19...Qe6 0.99/22 *(19...d4= -0.27/18* remains equal.*)* 20.exd5± cxd5 1-0 Mogranzini,R (2455)-Bergougnoux, A (2151) Monaco Sulava Memorial 1st 2019 (2)]

15.Bg3 dxe4 16.dxe4 Qe7 17.Qe2 Bg4 18.f3 Be6 19.Bf2 Bb6 20.Bxe6 Bxf2+ 21.Rxf2 Qxe6 22.Nf1 Nh5 23.g3 Ng7 24.Ne3 Rfd8 25.a4 Qe7 26.Qc4 Rd7 27.a5 a6 28.Raf1 Kh7 29.f4 exf4 30.gxf4 Ne6 31.fxg5 Nxg5 1.88/21

[31...Qxg5+= 0.01/22 32.Ng2 Ng7]

(Diagram)



32.Ng4?? -3.35/22

[32.Rf6!+- 1.88/21 and life is good for White.]

32...Nh3+-+ Deflection, Double Attack

[32...Qxe4? 33.Nf6+ Kh8 34.Nxe4+-]

33.Kh1 Nxf2+ 34.Rxf2 Rd1+ 35.Kg2 Rg8?? 7.74/21

[35...Kg7-+ -2.74/20 36.e5 Qe6 37.Qxe6 fxe6]

36.Rxf7+ Weighted Error Value: White=0.37/Black=0.44

[36.Qxf7+? loses. Qxf7 37.Rxf7+ Rg7 38.Rxg7+ Kxg7-+]

1-0

323 **C65**

□ **Yip,Carissa** **2369**

■ **Zhao,Xue** **2457**

FIDE World Cup Women 2023 (2.4)

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 Gormally, Daniel: 'Anand vs Kramnik - could this be a prelude to a world championship match later? Only time will tell. Tadic,Br:

'Tadic,Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...'' Tadic,Br: 'Tadic, Branko: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...' Van Delft & Ris: 'Arkadij Naiditsch: 'Sometimes we tend to forget that chess is a tactical game. You can play a great game outplaying Your opponent, and just "blunder" everything away in one move. This happens a lot to You, to me and even in the highest level. It is, by far, not a rare event, as we will in the next moves...''''

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bxc6 dxc6 6.0-0

[6.Nxe5? Qd4 7.Qe2 Qxe5-+]

6...Nd7 7.Nbd2 0-0 8.Nc4 The position is equal. **8...Re8 9.Kh1 Bf8**

[9...a5 10.a4 b6 11.Be3 Bb4 *(11...Bf8 12.Rg1 Ba6 13.Ncd2 c5 14.g4 Nb8 15.Qf1 Nc6 16.Qh3 Nd4 17.Bxd4 cxd4 18.g5 b5 19.axb5 Bxb5 20.Nh4 g6 21.Qg3 Bd6 22.Nhf3 a4 23.h4 Qe7 24.Nh2 Bd7 25.Ng4 Bxg4 26.Qxg4* 1-0 Pranav,V (2609)-Blohberger,F (2520) Julius Baer GenCup Pl/In rapid 2024 (2)*)* 12.Nfd2 b5 13.axb5 cxb5 14.c3 bxc4 15.cxb4 cxd3 16.bxa5 Ba6 17.Qb3 Nf6 18.h3 Nh5 19.Rfc1 Nf4 20.Rc6 Ne2 21.Qd5 Qb8 22.Rxa6 Rxa6 23.Qxd3 Qxb2 24.Rb1 1-0 Anand,V (2780)-Kramnik,V (2810) Zuerich 117/96 2013]

10.Bd2N

[10.Ng1 Nc5 *(10...f6 11.f4 exf4 12.Bxf4 Nc5 13.Qh5 Be6 14.Ne3 Bf7 15.Qg4 Ne6 16.Nf5 Kh8 17.Be3 Qd7 18.Ne2 Rad8 19.Rf3 Bg6 20.Nh4 Bf7 21.Nf5 Bg6 22.Nh4 Bf7 23.Raf1 c5 24.Nf5 Nd4 25.Nexd4* 1-0 Yuan,Q (2380)-Zirkelbach,M (2277) Speed Chess Q1 Sw blitz 2023 (2) *cxd4 26.Bxd4 Qxd4 27.Nxd4 Rxd4 28.Qh4 Rd6 29.a3 a5 30.Rf5 b6 31.h3 Kg8 32.Qg3 Bg6 33.R5f2 Rde6 34.Qxc7 Bc5 35.Rf3 Bh5 36.Rf5 Bg6 37.Rd5 R6e7 38.Rd7 Rxd7 39.Qxd7 Re7 40.Qc8+* 1-0 Karjakin,S (2380)-Peel,D (2277) 65/352 Belgrad 1995 (2)*)* 11.f4 exf4 12.Bxf4 A6) Ruy Lopez – Berlin Defe-Ruy Lopez A Berlin Defense]

10...f6 11.g4 Nc5 12.Rg1 g6 13.g5 -0.36/20

[13.h4= 0.05/18]

13...f5!∓ 14.exf5 e4 15.dxe4 -1.42/20

[15.fxg6∓ -0.36/20 hxg6 *(15...exf3 16.gxh7+ Kxh7 17.Ne3=)* 16.dxe4]

15...Nxe4∓ 16.Be3 Qxd8 would now be deadly. **16...Qd5** -0.88/23

[⌓16...Bxf5 -1.50/19 ...Bg7 is the strong threat. 17.Qxd8 Raxd8]

17.Qxd5+ cxd5 18.Na5 -2.19/18

[18.Nce5∓ -0.99/19 Bxf5 19.Ng4]

18...Bxf5-+

[Don't play 18...gxf5 19.Kg2∓]

19.Rad1 -3.19/19

[19.Kg2 -2.18/19 was necessary.]

19...Nd6 20.Nd2 b6

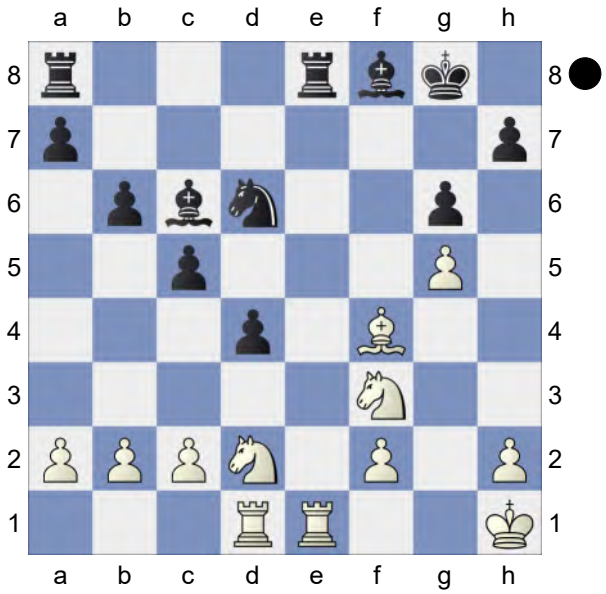
[Don't take 20...Bxc2 21.Rc1 Bf5 22.Nab3]

21.Nc6 Bd7 22.Nd4 -3.36/22

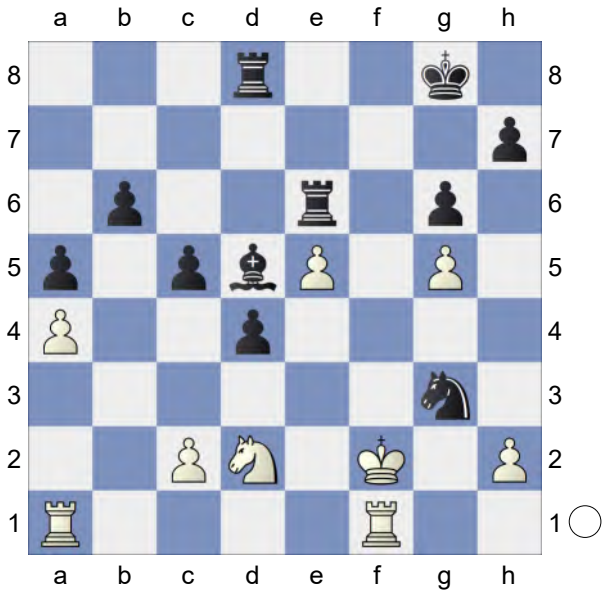
[⌓22.Nb4 -2.38/21]

22...c5 23.N4f3 d4 24.Bf4 Bc6

25.Rge1



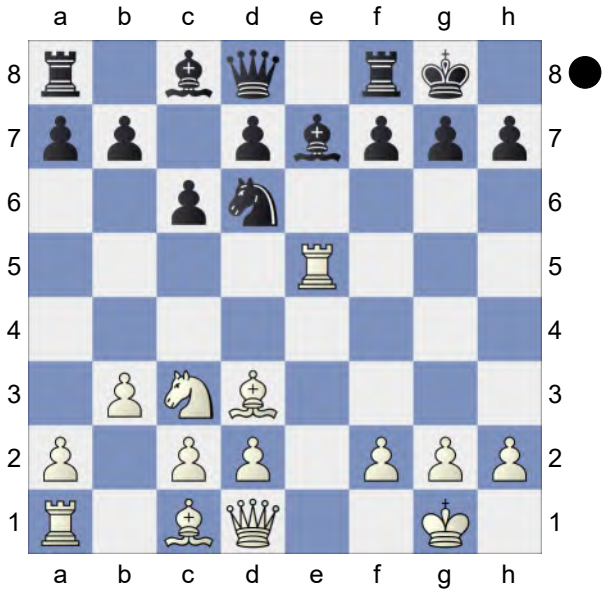
Nc4! Deflection **26.Kg1**
[26.Nxc4 Bxf3+]
26...Nxb2 27.Rb1 Na4
[27...Rxe1+ 28.Rxe1 Re8 29.Rxe8 Bxe8 30.Bb8-+]
28.Ne5 Bd5 29.Ra1 Nc3 30.a3 Bg7 31.Bg3 Re6 32.f4 Rd8 33.a4 Bxe5 34.fxe5 White is weak on the light squares **34...a5 35.Rf1 Ne2+** Black is clearly winning. **36.Kf2 Nxg3**



Remove Defender **37.Kxg3 Rxe5 38.Rae1 Rxg5+ 39.Kh4 Rg2 40.Ne4 Bxe4 41.Rxe4 Rf8** Weighted Error Value: White=0.38/Black=0.09 (flawless)
0-1

324 **C67**
□ **Abdyzhapar,Asylbek** **2368**
■ **Wu,Wenjin** **2357**
Belt and Road op 4th (8) 26.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Kholmov,R: 'Inf 5/248' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bd3 0-0 9.Nc3 c6 10.b3**



Ne8 11.Qf3 is the legacy move (11.Bb2). ist old school (11.Lb2).
[11.Bb2 d5 12.Qh5 Nf6 13.Qh4 Ne4 14.Qxe7 Qxe7 15.Rxe7 Nc5 16.Rae1 Be6 17.Ba3 Nxd3 18.cxd3 Rfb8 19.Bd6 Rd8 20.Bg3 b6 21.d4 c5 22.dxc5 bxc5 23.Rc7 Rdc8 24.Rxc8+ Rxc8 25.d3 h6 1-0 Silar (2417)-Karjakin,S (2380) Gonfreville op 1979 (3.65)]
11...d5 12.a4N -0.52/18
[12.Bb2= -0.11/19 Bf6 *(12...Bd6*

13.Re2 Qg5 14.Qe3 Qh5 15.h3 Bd7 16.Na4 Nc7 17.Nc5 Bc8 18.Ree1 b6 19.Be2 Qg6 20.Nd3 Re8 21.Qf3 f6 22.a4 Bf5 23.Qh5 Rxe2 24.Qxe2 Bxh3 25.Qf1 Bf5 26.Re3 c5 27.a5 ½-½ Siedler,K (2188)-Lindenblatt,I (1916) corr M-442 D 2008*; 12...Nf6 13.h3 Be6 14.Rae1 Nd7 15.Rh5 g6 16.Ne2 Bf6 17.Bxf6 Qxf6 18.Qxf6 Nxf6 19.Re5 Rfe8* ½-½ Estrin,Y-Bykhovsky,A II 5/248 Moscow 1968*)* 13.Re2 Nc7 14.Ba3 -0.43/20 *(14.Na4=* -0.03/18 *Bxb2 15.Nxb2 Qd6 16.Rae1 Bd7 17.Bf5 Rae8 18.Bxd7* ½-½ Shirov,A (2746)-Hracek,Z (2612) Bundesliga 0001 2000 (15.1) *)* 14...Re8 15.Rae1 Be6 16.Nd1 d4 0.28/19 *(⌓16...a5* -0.22/18 *)* 17.Nb2= Qd5 18.Be4 Qa5 0.64/20 *(18...Qg5=* 0.06/19 *)* 19.Nc4 Bxc4! 20.bxc4 1-0 Andreikin,D (2715)-Jakovenko,D (2722) RUS-ch playoff 65th rapid 2012 (1)]

12...Bf6 -0.16/22

[12...Bd6∓ -0.52/18 feels stronger. 13.Re1 Nf6]

13.Re2 Nc7 14.Ba3 Re8

[14...Ne6!? 15.Qg3 *(15.Bxf8 Nd4∓* Double Attack *)* 15...Re8=]

15.Rae1 Ne6 16.h3 Bd7 17.Bd6 Nd4 18.Rxe8+ Bxe8 19.Qg3 Bd7 20.Bc7 Qf8 21.Bd6 Qd8 22.Be5→ White has some attack. **22...Bxe5** 0.41/22

[22...g6= 0.01/19]

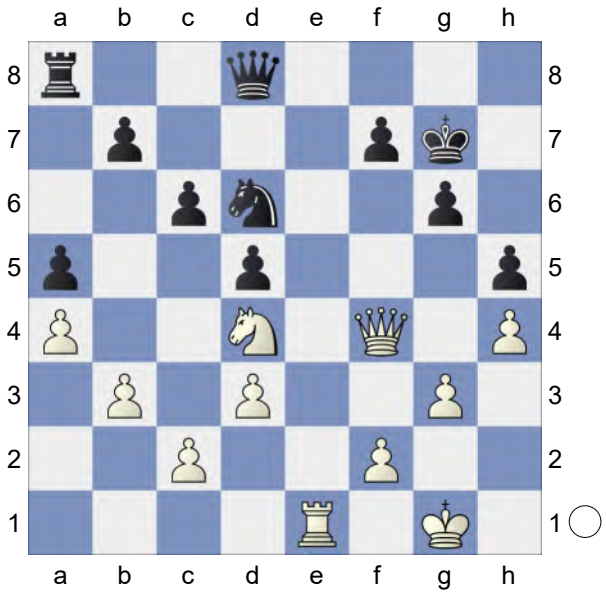
23.Qxe5 0.01/20

[23.Rxe5± 0.41/22 Ne6 24.Ne2]

23...Ne6!= 24.Bf5 a5 25.Ne2 Nf8 ...Qd8-g5 would now be deadly. **26.Nd4 g6** 0.58/22

[26...Qe8= 0.13/20]

27.Bxd7± Nxd7 28.Qg3 and Nd4-f5 should not be overlooked **28...Nf6 29.Qf4 Ne4 30.d3 Nd6 31.h4 h5 32.g3 Kg7**



33.Re6! White has more active pieces.

33...Ne8 34.Qe5+ Kg8? 4.96/22

[Black should play 34...f6!± 0.44/23 35.Qe1 Kf7]

35.Re7+- Qb8 36.Qg5 Kf8 #6/14

[36...Qd8+- 4.52/21 37.Nf3 *(37.Rxb7 Qxg5 38.hxg5 c5+-)* 37...Kf8]

37.Rd7 8.16/21 Weighted Error Value: White=0.08 (flawless) /Black=0.47

[⌓37.Ne6+ #6/14 fxe6 38.Rd7 Qxg3+ 39.fxg3 c5 40.Qe7+ *(40.Rxb7 e5 41.Qh6+ Kg8 42.Qxg6+ Kh8 43.Qh7#)* 40...Kg8 41.Qh7+ Kf8 42.Qh8#]

1-0

325 **C65**

□ **Tologontegin,Semetey** **2353**

■ **Nagare,Kaivalya Sandip** **2352**

Titled Tuesday intern op 04th Feb Early .. *[Kitty Kat]*

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 Nd4 6.Nxd4 Bxd4 7.c3 Bb6 8.Kh1**

8.Ba4 is a critical line. 8.La4 ist die kritische Fortsetzung.

[8.Na3 c6 9.Ba4 0-0 *(9...Bc7 10.Bc2 d5 11.exd5 cxd5 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 0-0 14.Bb3 g5 15.Bg3 Re8 16.Nc2 Bg4 17.Qd2 a5 18.Ne3 Be6 19.d4 a4 20.Bc2 a3 21.b3 Ne4 22.Bxe4 dxe4 23.Rad1 f5 24.Bxe5* ½-½ Efimenko,Z (2568)-Pechac,J (2578) Bundesliga 2425 2024 (1.5)*)* 10.Bg5 h6 11.Bh4 d6 12.Nc4 g5 13.Bg3 Bg4 14.Qd2 Bc7 15.Bb3 Be6 16.Ne3 Qe7 17.f3 Nh5 18.Bf2 Rad8 19.d4 exd4 20.cxd4 Fressinet,L (2708)-Ivanchuk,V (2731) 120/(177) Paris 2013]

8...c6 9.Ba4 Black is slightly better.

9...d6 0.01/19

[9...d5∓ -0.57/19 10.exd5 Nxd5 *(10...Qxd5 11.Bb3±)*]

10.f4N

[10.h3 Be6 11.f4 exf4 12.Bxf4 Qd7 13.Qf3 0-0-0 14.Nd2 Rdg8 15.d4 d5 16.e5 Ne8 17.Qe3 h6 18.Bh2 g5 19.Bc2 h5 20.b4 h4 21.a4 g4 22.hxg4 Rxg4 23.Nb3 Rhg8 24.Rf2 Qe7 1-0 Goraj,B (2162)-Kucuk,A (1568) EU-chT U18 Girls 2023 (5.2) 25.Raf1 Ng7 26.a5 Bd8 27.Bd1 Rg5 28.Qd3 Nh5 29.Bxh5 Rxh5 30.Nc5 Rg3 31.Qd2 h3 32.Bxg3 hxg2+ 33.Kxg2 Bh3+ 34.Kg1 Bxf1 35.Kxf1 b6 36.axb6 axb6 37.Qe2 Rh1+ 38.Kg2 Ra1 39.Qg4+ Kb8 1-0 Jacot,L (2162)-Barnier,A (1568) corr WS/M/ ICCF 2018 (5.2)]

10...Ng4 11.Qe1 Inhibits Qd8-h4.

11...h5 12.h3 Qe7 0.78/21

[12...exf4!= 0.01/20 remains equal. 13.Bxf4 g5]

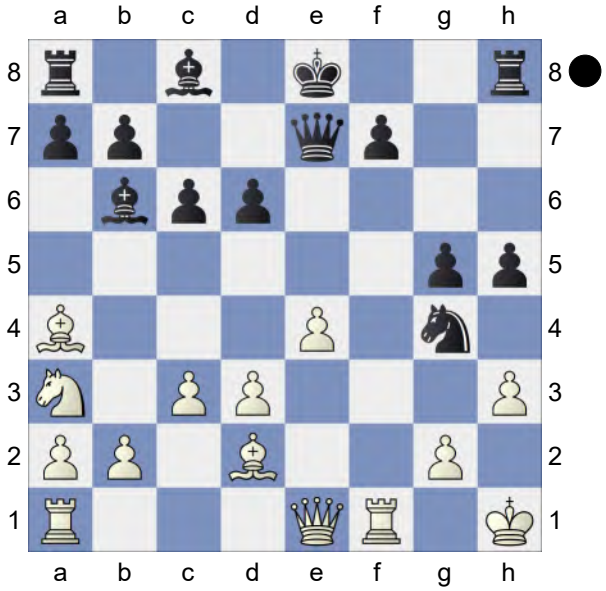
13.Na3 -0.20/21

[13.f5± 0.78/21]

13...exf4!N

[13...Be6 0.93/20 13...e5xf4 -0.01 14.f5 Bd7 15.Nc4 Bf2 1.31/22 *(15...Bc7!± 0.68/20)* 16.Rxf2± Nxf2+ 17.Qxf2 b5 18.Nxd6+ Qxd6 19.Bc2 0.81/19 *(⌓19.Bb3 1.25/20)* 19...g6? 3.28/18 ;1-0 Tolush,A-Vasiukov,E URS-ch31 Semifinal 1963 *(19...c5± 0.81/19)*]

14.Bxf4 g5! 15.Bd2



Qe5! 16.g3!

[16.hxg4? hxg4+]

16...h4

[16...Nh6 17.Nc4 Qe6 18.g4 Qg6]

17.Bf4 -3.16/21

[17.hxg4 hxg3+ 18.Kg2 Rh2+ *(18...Bxg4 19.Rh1=)* 19.Kf3 Qf6+ *(19...Bf2? 20.Rxf2 Rxf2+ 21.Qxf2-+)* 20.Kxg3 Qh6 21.Bxc6+ bxc6 22.Kf3 Qh3+ 23.Qg3 Bxg4#]

[17.d4!= -0.01/23 and White is okay. Qxg3 18.hxg4 Qh3+ 19.Kg1 Qxg4+ 20.Kh1 Qh3+ 21.Kg1]

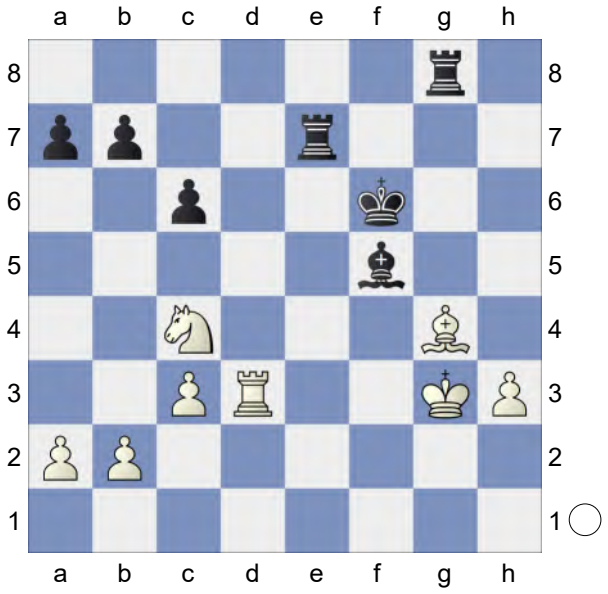
17...gxf4 18.gxf4 Qh5 0.40/22

[18...Qa5-+ -2.62/21 19.Bb3 Nh6]

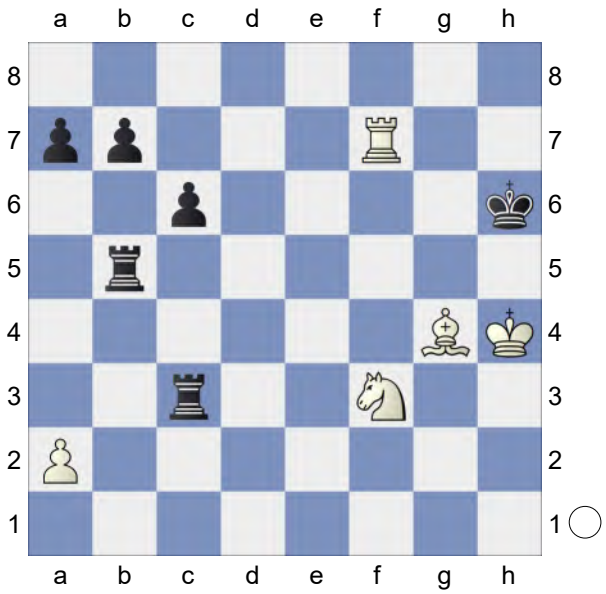
19.Bd1± Pin 19...Nf2+ 20.Rxf2 -0.84/23

[20.Qxf2!± 0.57/23 is the one way to stay ahead. Qxd1 21.Raxd1 Bxf2 22.Rxf2]

20...Bxf2∓ 21.Qxf2 Qg6 -0.01/20
[21...Qh6∓ -0.60/23 22.f5 b6]
22.f5= Qg3 0.37/21
[22...Qf6= -0.01/21 should be considered.]
23.Qxg3± hxg3 24.Kg2 Ke7 25.Bg4 Bd7 26.Re1 Rag8 27.Kxg3 d5 0.97/22
28.Kf4± dxe4 29.dxe4 f6 30.e5 fxe5+ 1.30/22
[30...Bc8± 0.63/22]
31.Rxe5+ 0.88/23
[⌓31.Kxe5 1.30/22 Bc8 32.Kf4+ Kf6 33.Nc2]
31...Kf6 32.Re3 -0.24/24
[32.Ra5± 1.07/22]
32...Rh4= 33.Kg3! Rh7 0.55/26
[33...Rhxg4+= -0.21/22 34.hxg4 Bxf5]
34.Nc4!± Re7
[34...Bxf5 35.Rf3=]
35.Rd3 Bxf5? 3.62/22
[35...b5!± 0.45/22 36.Rd6+ Kf7 37.Ne5+ Rxe5 38.Rxd7+ Re7]



36.Rf3!+- Rg5 Threatens to win with ... Re7-e6. **37.Nd6 Re2?** 4.90/23
[37...Re5 3.05/20 is a better defense. 38.b3 *(38.Nxf5 Rexf5 39.Rxf5+ Rxf5+-; 38.Rxf5+ Rgxf5 39.Nxf5 Re1±)* 38...Kg6]
38.Nxf5 Threatens to win with Nf5-d4+.
[38.Rxf5+ Rxf5 39.Bxe2 Re5+-]
38...Rxb2 39.h4 Rg6 40.h5 Rg5 41.h6 Kg6 42.Nh4+? 0.80/22
[42.Rd3+- 3.76/22 is more deadly.]
42...Kxh6± 43.Rf7 0.01/22
[43.Re3± 1.09/19]
43...Rc2 0.68/21
[Black should try 43...Rxa2= 0.01/22 44.Nf3 *(44.Rxb7 Ra3=)* 44...Rg7]
44.Nf3 -0.01/23
[44.Rxb7 Rxc3+ 45.Nf3 Ra3]
[Better is 44.Kf4!± 0.68/21 Rf2+ 45.Bf3]
44...Rxc3 45.Kh4⇄ White is not keeping still **45...Rb5**

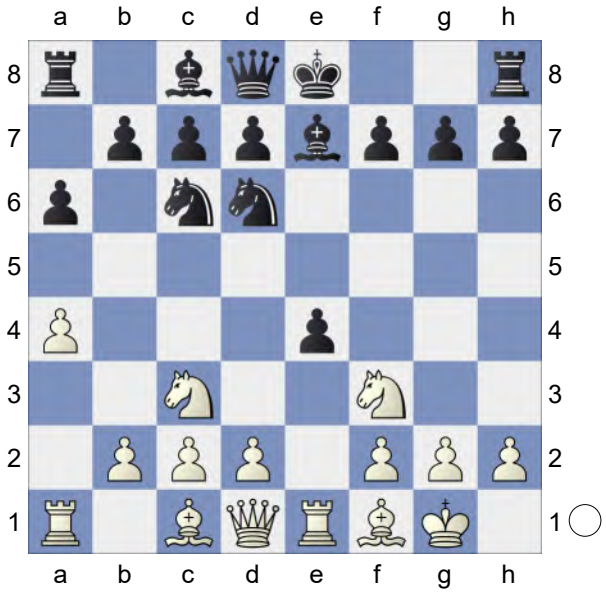


46.Bf5! Rc4+ 47.Kg3 Rxf5! 48.Rxf5= Endgame KRN-KR **48...Ra4!** Inhibits Rf5-a5. **49.Rf7 b6 50.Rf6+ Kg7 51.Rxc6 Rxa2 52.Kf4 Kf7 53.Ne5+ Ke7 54.Kf5 b5** The position is equal. **55.Re6+ Kd8 56.Rd6+ Kc7 57.Ke6 b4 58.Rc6+ Kb7 59.Rc4 a5 60.Kd5 Kb6 61.Nd7+ Kb5 62.Rc5+ Ka4 63.Nb6+ Kb3 64.Kc6 a4 65.Kb5 Rh2 66.Nxa4 Rh8 67.Nb6 Rb8**

68.Rh5 Ka3 69.Rh3+ b3 70.Ka6 Ka2 71.Nc4 Rb4
[71...Ka1?! 72.Nd2± *(72.Rxb3 Rxb3 73.Nd2 Kb2=)*]
72.Nd2 b2 73.Rh5 Rh5-a5+ would kill now. **73...Ra4+ 74.Kb5 Ra3**
[74...b1R+? perishes. 75.Kxa4 Rb7 76.Nc4+-]
[74...b1Q+?! 75.Nxb1 Rg4 76.Nc3+ Kb3 77.Nd5±]
[74...Rd4!? 75.Rh2□ Rd8=]
75.Kb4 Ra8
[Don't play 75...b1N?! 76.Rh2 Ra7 *(76...Rh3 77.Rxh3 Nxd2 78.Rh2 Kb2 79.Rxd2+ Kc1 80.Kc3 Kb1 81.Rd1+ Ka2 82.Rh1 Ka3 83.Ra1#)* 77.Nb3+±]
76.Kc3 Rc8+
[76...b1Q simplifies 77.Nxb1 Rc8+ 78.Kd2 Kxb1 79.Rb5+ Ka2]
77.Kd3 Rd8+ 78.Kc2 Rc8+ 79.Kd1 Ra8 Inhibits Rh5-a5+. **80.Rh4 Ra3 81.Rh7 b1Q+ 82.Nxb1 Kxb1** KR-KR **83.Rb7+ Ka2 84.Kc2 Ra5 85.Rc7 Ra4 86.Rc3 Ra6 87.Rc5 Ra8 88.Rc6 Ra3 89.Rc4 Ra5 90.Rc3 Ra4 91.Rd3 Ra3 92.Rd4 Ra5 93.Rb4 Rc5+ 94.Kd3 Ka3 95.Rc4 Rxc4 96.Kxc4** White used his chance. Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.38
½-½

326 **C67**
□ **Ostrovskiy,Aleksandr A** **2403**
■ **Szwed,Jacek** **2342**
Colonia de Sant Jordi GM 3rd (7)
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4 Be7! 7.Nc3 a6!** is now more promising than 7...0-0. im Vergleich zu 7...0-0 vielversprechender. **8.Bf1** The position is equal. **8...e4**



Deflection **9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re1 0-0N**
[11...Bg4 12.h3 Bh5 13.Be2 *(13.c3 d4 14.d3 0-0 15.Be2 Bg6 16.Bf4 Re8 17.Bf1 Qd7 18.Qb3 Na5 19.Qa2 dxc3 20.bxc3 Bd6 21.Rxe8+ Rxe8 22.Qd5 Qf5 23.Qxf5 Bxf5 24.Be3 c5 25.Nd2 Rc8 26.g4 Bd7 27.Bg2 Kf8* ½-½ Andersen,M (2598)-Howell,D (2677) Olympiad-45 Budapest 2024 (3.8)*)* 13...0-0 14.d4 Re8 15.Ne5 Bxe2 16.Rxe2 Nxe5 17.dxe5 Qd7 18.Qd3 b5 19.Bf4 bxa4 20.Rd2 Qb5 21.Qd4 c6 22.Be3 Rab8 23.c3 a3 24.bxa3 Qa5 25.Rd3 Bf8 26.a4 0-1 Bulmaga,I (2423)-Injac,T (2426) EU-Cup (Women) 27th 2023 (7.3)]
[11...d4 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Rxe6 fxe6 14.Be4 d3 15.Bxd3 0-0 16.Be4 Nd4 17.d3 Nxf3+ 18.Bxf3 Nihal,S (2651)-Robson,R (2682) 153/(131) Abu Dhabi 2022]
12.d4 Bg4 13.c3 Bd6 14.h3 Bh5 15.g4 Bg6 16.Ne5 Qh4 17.Bf4N

[17.Bg2 Be4 18.Bf4! Nxe5 19.dxe5 Bc5 20.Be3 Bxe3 21.Rxe3 Bxg2 22.Kxg2 c6 23.Qf3 0-1 Costa,L (2487)-Sousa,A (2431) POR-chT Soure 2024 (6.1)]

17...Nxe5! 18.dxe5 0.01/21

[18.Bg3!± 0.38/22 Qd8 19.dxe5 Discovered Attack]

18...Bc5= 19.Be3

[19.Qxd5? Qxf2+ 20.Kh1 Qg1#]

19...Bxe3 20.Rxe3 c6 21.Qd4 f5 22.gxf5

[22.c4 keeps more tension. fxg4 23.Rg3 Be4 24.cxd5 Bxd5 25.Bc4]

22...Qxd4 23.cxd4 Bxf5 24.a5 Rf7 25.Rf3 Raf8 26.Raa3 Bc8 27.Rxf7 Rxf7 Endgame KRB-KRB **28.Rd3 Rf4 29.Be2 Bf5** 0.38/25

[29...Re4= -0.27/24 30.Kf1 Kf7]

30.Rb3± Bc8 31.Rd3 -0.31/24

[31.Kg2!± 0.55/23]

31...Bf5 32.Rb3 Bc8 33.Rd3 -0.28/23

[Better is 33.Kg2 0.30/22]

33...Bf5 Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.07 (flawless) ½-½

327 **C00**
□ **Uskov,Artem** **2440**
■ **Seres,Lajos** **2296**
Budapest FS02 GM (9) 08.02.2025
[Kitty Kat]

C00: French: Unusual White 2nd moves

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d5 7.Nbd2 dxe4 8.dxe4 Qe7 8...a5 might become the main line. 8...a5 könnte zur Hauptfortsetzung werden. **9.Qe2 a5 10.a4** 10.Ba4 is vanishing. 10.La4 scheint zu verschwinden. **10...Nb8 11.Bd3** The position is equal.

[11.Nb3 Bb6 12.Bg5 h6 13.Bh4 Be6 14.Nbd2 c6 15.Bc4 Nbd7 16.Bg3 Bc7 17.Rfe1 Rfe8 18.Qd1 Bxc4 19.Nxc4 Qe6 20.Qe2 Nc5 21.Bxe5 Bxe5 22.Ncxe5 Nfxe4 23.Qc2 Qb3 24.Qxb3 Nxb3 25.Rad1 Nec5 0-1 Player,E (2204)-Kjartansson,G (2402) Munich Pfingst op-A 1st 2023 (2)]

11...Rd8 has lost popularity (11...Nbd7). verliert an Beliebtheit (11...Sbd7).

12.Nc4 Nc6 13.Ne3N

[13.Be3 h6 14.Rad1 Be6 15.h3 Bxc4 16.Bxc4 Rxd1 17.Rxd1 Bxe3 18.Qxe3 Rd8 19.Rxd8+ Qxd8 20.Bb5 Qd6 #3 3) 4.d3: Main Lines-4.d3 with 6.O-O d5 7.Nbd2]

13...h6 14.Bd2N

[14.Bc2 Be6 15.h3 Bb6 16.Nc4 Bc5 17.Nfxe5 Nxe5 18.Nxe5 Bxh3 19.Bf4 Be6 20.Rfe1 ½-½ Franzen,T (2278)-Shabaev,V (2123) VW-Cup10 Gr44 email 2017]

14...Be6 15.Bc2 Rd7 16.Rae1 Rad8 17.Bc1

[17.Rd1 feels hotter. Ng4 18.Nc4 Qf6 19.Bb3]

17...Bxe3 18.Bxe3 Ng4 19.Bc1 Qc5! And now ...Be6-c4 would win. **20.Nh4** -0.32/21

[20.Qb5!± 0.47/22 b6 21.h3]

20...h5 0.49/23

[20...Nf6∓ -0.32/21]

21.Qf3? -1.31/21

[21.Qb5± 0.49/23 Qxb5 22.axb5]

21...Bc4 -0.19/21

[21...Nb4!∓ -1.31/21 22.Bb1 Nd3 23.Bxd3 Rxd3]

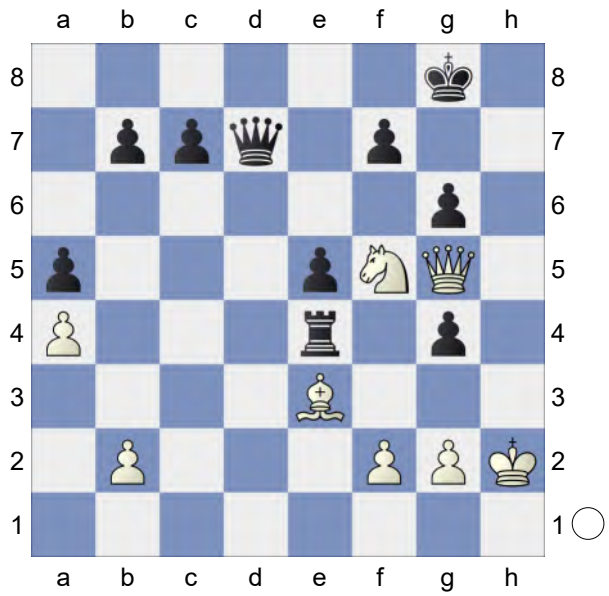
22.h3= Bxf1 0.37/21

[22...Nf6= -0.01/21]

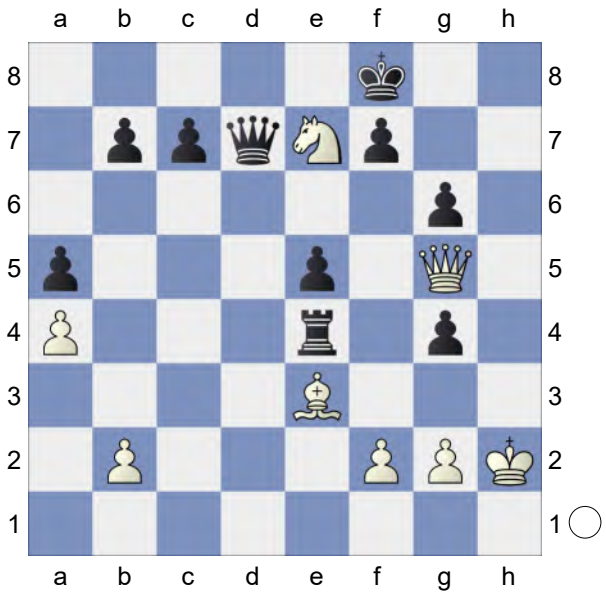
23.Rxf1 -0.01/22

[23.hxg4± 0.37/21 is superior. Ba6 *(23...Bd3 24.Bb3=)* 24.Bg5

(24.gxh5 Bc4±)]
23...Nd4 24.cxd4 Qxc2 25.hxg4 Rxd4 26.Be3 -0.69/22
[26.gxh5? Rd1 27.Be3 *(27.Qc3? Rxf1+ 28.Kh2 Qxf2-+)* 27...Rxf1+ *(27...Qxa4 28.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 29.Kh2∓)* 28.Kh2 Qxa4-+]
[26.Bg5!= 0.01/23 R8d7 27.Nf5 *(27.gxh5 Qxe4 28.Qg3 Kh7±)*]
26...hxg4∓ 27.Qf5↑ White fights for an advantage.
[27.Qxg4 Qxe4 28.Qxe4 Rxe4∓]
27...Rxe4 28.Qg5 Chess con chili.
28...Rd1 29.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 30.Kh2 and Nh4-f5 should not be overlooked
30...Qd7 0.77/23
[30...Qxa4? 31.Nf5 g6 *(31...g3+? 32.fxg3 Rg4 33.Nh6+* Discovered Attack, Double Attack *Kh7 34.Nxg4+-)* 32.Qd8+ Kh7 33.Qf8 gxf5 34.Qxf7+ Kh8 35.Bg5+-]
[30...Qd6!∓ -0.56/22 keeps the upper hand. 31.Nf5 Qf6 32.Ne7+ Kf8]
31.Nf5± White has strong compensation.
31...g6 1.54/24
[⌓31...g3+ 0.95/24 32.Kxg3 f6]



32.Ne7+ 0.42/24
[White should play 32.Ng3!± 1.54/24 Rc4 33.Qxe5]
32...Kf8? 2.04/24
[32...Kg7!± 0.42/24]



33.Qf6! Weighted Error Value: White=0.35/Black=0.33
1-0

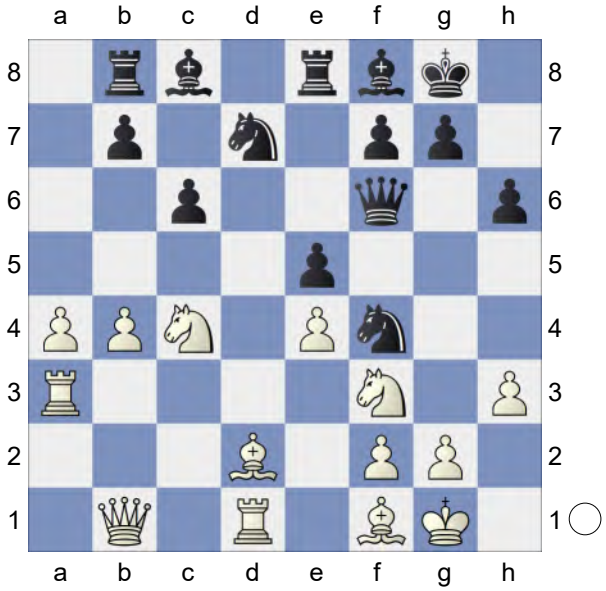
328 **C67**
□ **Karthikeyan,P2.** **2286**
■ **Deepan,C..** **2413**
15th Chennai Open 2025 (3.5) 03.01.25
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 The game between Firoujza and Vidit, the players who had the most decisive games, until round 13, was a rather quick one; the quickest in the whole event. With Firoujza having had a rough tournament overall, but with quite a few good moments, and Vidit not managing to get his ideal performance, the two players did not have much to aim for, and the game ended in a quick draw within five minutes, by move 14. _____

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.dxe5 Nxb5 7.a4 Nbd4 8.Nxd4 Nxd4 9.Qxd4 d5 10.exd6 Qxd6 11.Qe4+ Qe6 12.Qd4 Qd6 13.Qe4+ Qe6 14.Qd4 Qd6 15.Qe4+N A rather calm draw.
½-½

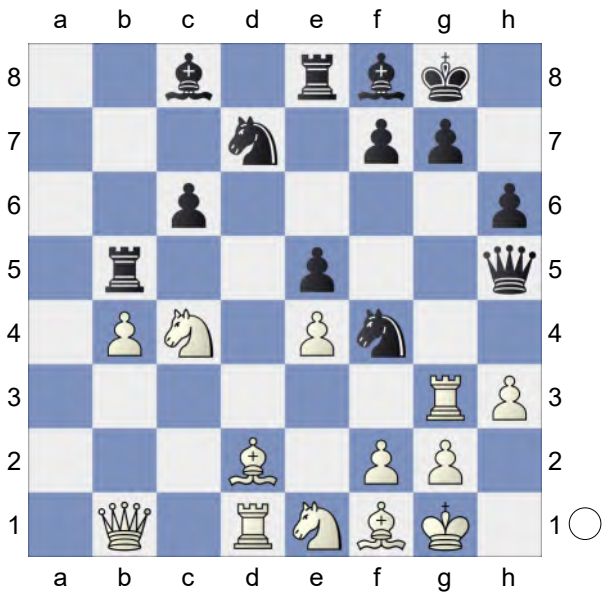
329 **C65**
□ **Uskov,Artem** **2430**
■ **Garv,Rai** **2277**
Masters Open 2024 (1.60) 03.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 d5 6.Nbd2 dxe4 7.dxe4 0-0 8.0-0** The position is equal. **8...a5** is recently more successful than 8...Qe7. ist inzwischen erfolgreicher als 8...De7. **9.Qc2 Qe7 10.a4 Nb8 11.h3 c6N** 0.59/25
[11...Rd8= 0.17/25 might be stronger. 12.Be2 Nbd7 13.Re1 Nf8 14.Nb3 Bb6 15.Nfd2 Be6 16.Nc4 Bxc4 17.Bxc4 Ne6 18.g3 h5 19.Kg2 h4 20.Qe2 g6 21.Nd2 Nc5 22.Nf3 hxg3 23.fxg3 Ncxe4 24.Ng5 Nd6 25.Ba2 Re8 26.h4 Kg7 1-0 Firouzja,A (2785)-Ding,L (2788) Bucuresti 157/122 2023]
12.Bd3± Nbd7 'N'
[12...Ne8 13.Nc4 f6 14.b4 axb4 15.cxb4 Ba7 16.Ba3 b5 17.axb5 cxb5 18.Ne3 Bxe3 19.Qxc8 1-0 Rogic,D (2435)-Rogulj,B (2317) CRO-chT1A 31st 2023 (2.6)]
13.Rd1 Re8 14.Nc4 h6 15.Bd2 Nh5 16.Qb1 0.16/21
[16.Rab1± 0.53/19]
16...Nf4 17.Bf1 Qf6 ...Nxh3+! is the strong threat. **18.b4** aiming for Bxf4. **18...axb4** 0.90/22
[18...Ba7!= 0.17/20 keeps the balance.]
19.cxb4± Hoping for Bxf4! 19...Bf8 20.Ra3 Rb8 1.66/19
[20...b5± 0.85/18]

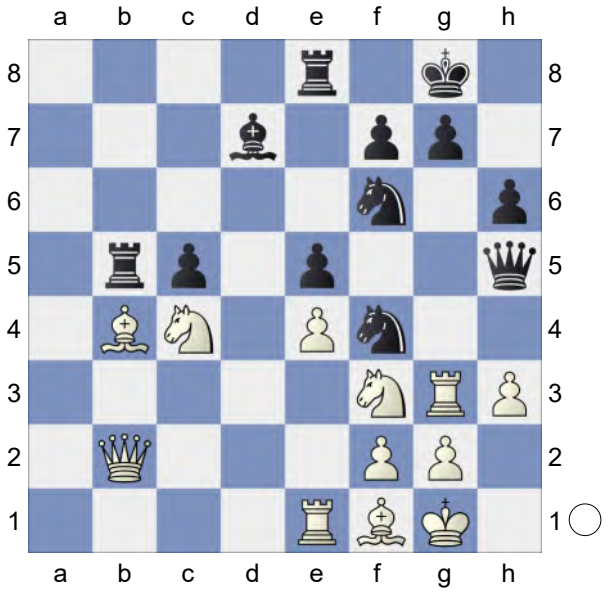


21.Ne1 0.57/19
[21.Bxf4!+- 1.66/19 Strongly threatening Bg3. Qxf4 22.Nd6 Bxd6 23.Rxd6]
21...b5± 22.axb5 Rxb5 23.Rf3 Qg6 24.Rg3 Qh5 1.42/18
[Black should play 24...Qe6± 0.70/18]

(Diagram)

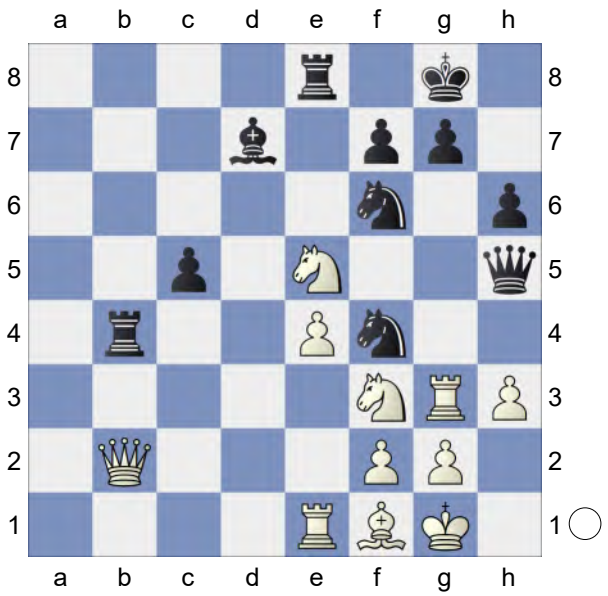


25.Nf3!± Nf6 1.96/20
[25...Rb8± 1.28/19 keeps fighting. 26.Na5 c5]
26.Re1 1.38/20
[26.Bc3+- 1.96/20]
26...Bd7 27.Qb2 0.67/19
[White should try 27.Bc3+- 1.67/18]
27...Bxb4? 3.91/20 A mistake that costs the game. **28.Bxb4+- c5**

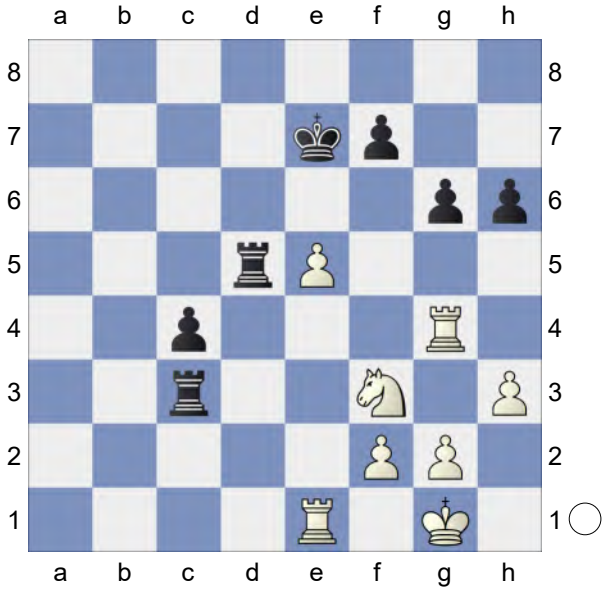


29.Ncxe5 Discovered Attack **29...Rxb4**

(Diagram)



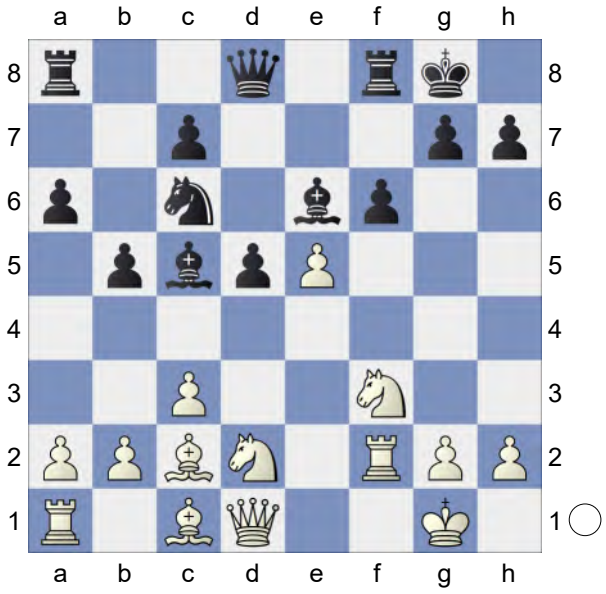
30.Nxd7! Rxb2 31.Nxf6+ Kf8 32.Nxh5 Nxh5 33.Rg4 Nf6 34.Rf4 Rb4 35.Bd3 Rd8 36.Bc2 Ke7 37.Rf5 Rc4 5.51/19
[⌓37...Rc8 3.72/17 38.Ra1 Rc4 39.Ra7+ Kf8]
38.Bb3 Rc3 39.e5 Nd5 40.Bxd5 Rxd5 41.Rf4 c4 42.Rg4 g6



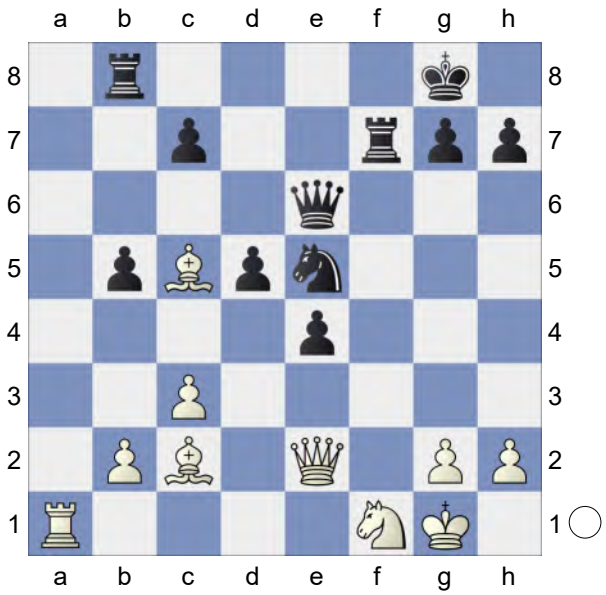
43.e6! Weighted Error Value: White=0.27 (precise) /Black=0.36
1-0

330 **C82**
□ **Grieve,Harry** **2459**
■ **Dong Bao Nghia** **2327**
109th ch-GBR 2023 (7.3) 28.07.2023
[Kitty Kat]

C82: Open Ruy Lopez: 9 c3 without 9...Be7 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 a6 6.Ba4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.c3 Bc5 10.Nbd2 0-0 11.Bc2 Nxf2 12.Rxf2 f6**

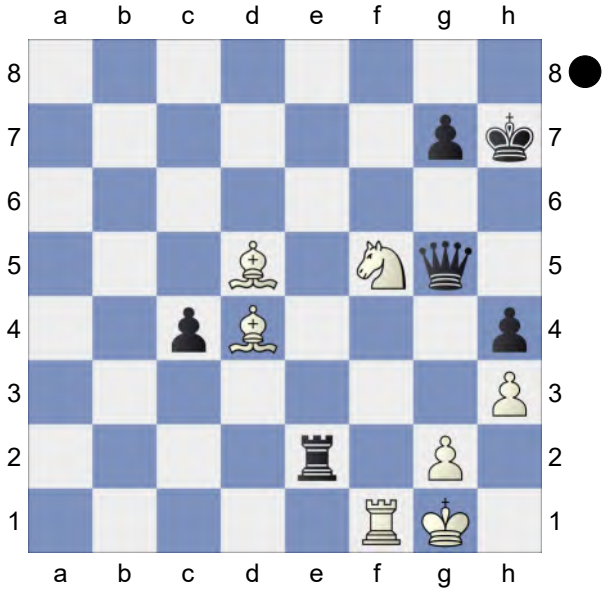


13.Nf1! Bxf2+ 14.Kxf2 fxe5 15.Kg1 White is slightly better. **15...e4 16.Nd4 Qf6 17.Be3** Wards off Qf2+
[17.Nxc6? Qf2+ 18.Kh1 Qxf1+ 19.Qxf1 Rxf1#]
17...Ne5 18.Nxe6 Qxe6 19.Qe2N 0.19/18
[19.Bd4± 0.72/20]
[19.Nd2 Rae8 20.b4 Nf3+ 21.Kh1 Qg4 22.Nf1 Rf5 23.Ng3 Qxg3 24.gxf3 Qxf3+ 25.Qxf3 Rxf3 26.Re1 h5 27.Bd1 Rf5 28.Be2 Re6 29.Rg1 Kf7 30.Rg3 Re8 31.Bd4 g6 32.Rg1 c6 33.a4 Re6 ½-½ Ionescu Vornicu,A-Dilworth,V EU-chT2 corr7887 1978 34.a5 e3 35.Re1 Kg8 ½-½ Johansen,A-Sevecek,J Slovensko 61/(647) 1994]
19...Rf7 0.69/21
[19...Qg6= 0.19/18]
20.a4± White has compensation.
20...Raf8 21.axb5 axb5 22.Bc5 Rb8

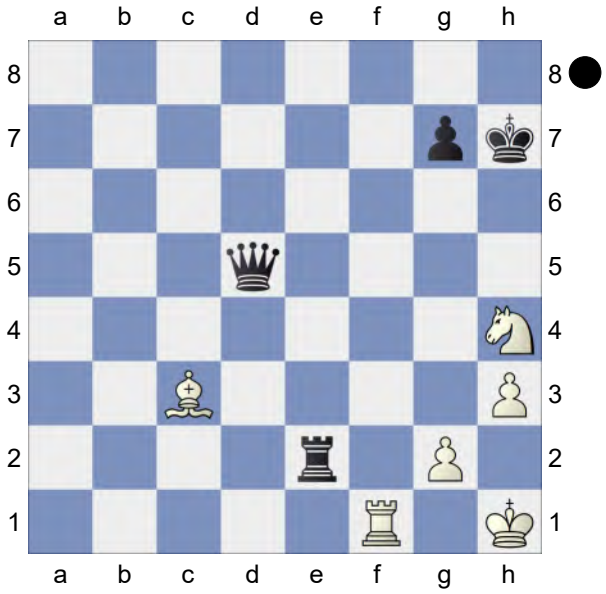


23.Qxb5 0.23/19 **Nd7=**
[23...Nf3+? 24.gxf3 Rff8 *(24...Qg6+? 25.Ng3+-)* 25.Qa6 Qxa6 26.Rxa6+-]
24.Qa5 h5? 2.20/18
[24...Rxb2= 0.22/19 and Black stays safe. 25.Ne3 Nxc5 26.Qxc5 h6]
25.Qxc7+- Rxb2 26.Ne3 Really sharp!
26...Kh7 2.80/19
[26...Nxc5± 1.47/17 27.Qxc5 Rf8]
27.Bd4 Active counter play! **27...Nf6 28.Qg3 Ng4 29.Rc1 Qh6 30.h3**
[30.Nxg4? Qxc1+]
30...Nf2 3.17/21
[30...Nxe3 2.25/21 was necessary. 31.Bxe3 Qe6]
31.Rf1 h4 32.Qxf2 0.43/18
[32.Qe5 Rxc2 33.Nxc2 Nd3 *(33...Nxh3+ 34.Kh2=)* 34.Rxf7 *(34.Qxd5 Rxf1+* Remove Defender *35.Kxf1 Qc1+ 36.Ke2 Nf4+ 37.Kf2 Qxc2+ 38.Kf1 Qe2+ 39.Kg1 Qxg2#)* 34...Nxe5 35.Bxe5 Qc1+ 36.Kh2

Qxc2 37.Rxg7+ Kh6∓]
[32.Qh2!+- 2.68/24]
32...Rxf2± 33.Rxf2 Kg8 34.Rf1
[34.Nxd5? is the wrong capture. Qc1+ 35.Kh2 Rxc2-+]
[34.Rf5 Rxc2 35.Nxc2 Qc1+ 36.Kh2 Qxc2 37.Rxd5 Qd2=]
34...Qg5 1.39/21
[34...Qa6± 0.37/19]
35.c4 0.24/25
[35.Rf5!± 1.39/21 Qg3 36.Nxd5 *(36.Rxd5 Qe1+ 37.Kh2 Qg3+ 38.Kh1 Qe1+ 39.Kh2 Qg3+ 40.Kg1 Qe1+ 41.Kh2=)* 36...Qe1+ *(36...Rxc2 37.Ne7+ Kh8 38.Rh5#)* 37.Rf1]
35...dxc4 36.Bxe4! Black must now prevent Rf5!. **36...Re2 37.Bd5+ Kh7 38.Be4+!** A strong pair of Bishops.
38...Kg8 39.Bd5+ 0.00/27
[39.Rf3!± 0.48/26]
39...Kh7= 40.Nf5 -3.46/22
[40.Bxc4= 0.00/27 Rxe3 41.Bxe3 Qxe3+ 42.Kh1]



40...Qd2!-+ 41.Kh1
[Much worse is 41.Bf3 Re1 42.Bxg7 Rxf1+ 43.Kxf1 Qd3+ 44.Kf2 Qxf5-+]
41...c3 Hoping for ...c2. **42.Bxc3 Qxd5 43.Nxh4**

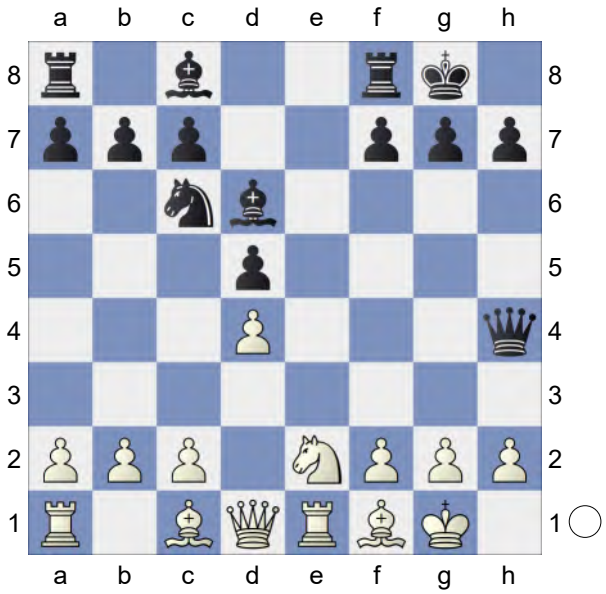


Qc4? -0.41/16
[43...Re3!-+ -3.52/24 44.Rf3 Qd1+ 45.Kh2 Qd6+ 46.Kh1 Qd1+]
44.Be1∓ Rxe1 Remove Defender
45.Rxe1 The position is equal.
45...Qxh4 Endgame KQ-KR **46.Rf1 Kg6 47.Kh2 Kg5 48.Rf3 Kh5 49.Rf5+ Kh6 50.Rf1 Qe4 51.Rf3 Kh5 52.Kg1 Kh4 53.Kh2 Qe5+ 54.Kg1 Qe1+ 55.Kh2 g5 56.Rd3 Kh5 57.Rf3 Kg6 58.g4 Qe5+ 59.Kg2 Qe4 60.Kg3** Quite a comeback for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.29 (precise) / Black=0.37 **60...Qe1+**
½-½

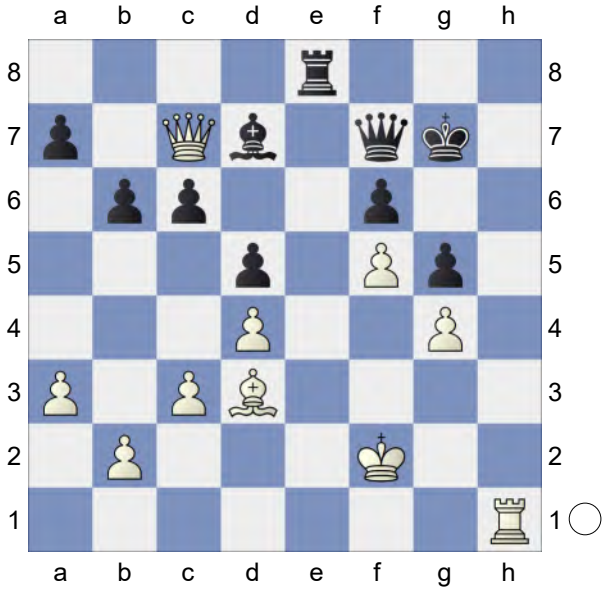
331 **C67**
□ **L'Ami,Erwin** **2639**
■ **Tate,Alan** **2345**
43rd Olympiad 2018 Open (2.2) 25.09.18
[TA]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Be7 7.Bf1 Nf5 C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4

0-0 Nxe4 **8.Nf3 0-0** LiveBook: 126 Games **9.Nc3**
[9.d4 d5 10.c3 Re8 11.Bd3 Bd6 12.Nbd2 Bd7 13.Nf1 Rxe1 14.Qxe1 Qe7 15.Qxe7 Nfxe7 1/2-1/2 (28) Vachier Lagrave,M (2780) -Nakamura, H (2763) chess.com INT 2018]
9...d5 White is slightly better. **10.Ne2N**
[Predecessor: 10.d3 Bf6 11.h3 Nfd4 12.Bf4 Nxf3+ 13.Qxf3 Nd4 14.Qd1 Be6 15.Nb1 1/2-1/2 (43) Lukac,R (2166)-Nemec,A (2078) Slovakia 2001]
10...Bd6 11.d4 Nh4 12.Nxh4! Qxh4



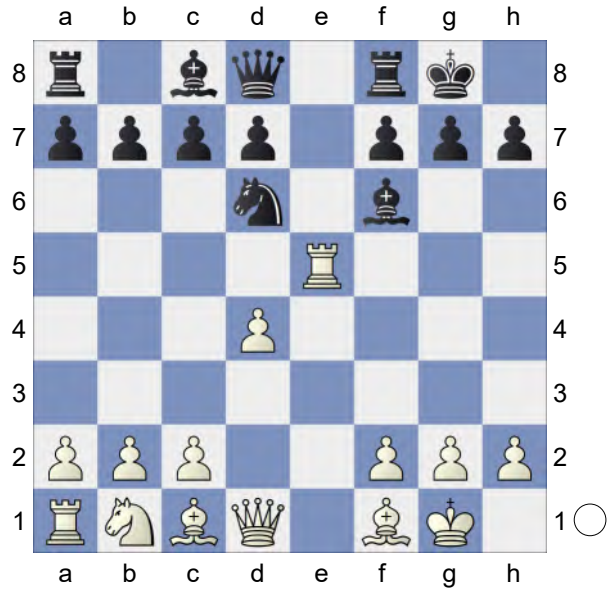
13.g3 Qf6 14.c3 Nd8 15.Bf4 c6 16.Qb3 Rb8 17.Bxd6 Qxd6 18.Nf4 Ne6 19.Nxe6 Bxe6 20.Re3 b6 21.Rae1 Rb7 22.f4 Rbb8 23.Bd3 Bd7 24.Qc2 g6 25.f5 Rbe8 26.Re5 Kg7 27.Kg2 f6 28.Rxe8 Rxe8 29.Rf1 g5 30.Qd2 Qe7 31.Kf2 Qf7 32.Qd1 Re7 33.h4 h6 34.Rh1 Re8 35.Qf3 Qe7 36.a3 Qf7 37.g4 Rh8 38.Qg3 Re8
[38...Be8±]
39.hxg5± hxg5 40.Qh2 White threatens Qh6+ and mate.
40...Kf8
[40...Qg8±]
41.Qd6+
[41.Qh8++- Ke7 42.Qh2]
41...Kg7± 42.Qh2
[42.c4=]
42...Kf8+- 43.Qc7
[43.Qh8++- Ke7 44.Qh2 Kf8]
43...Kg7
[⌓43...Kg8]



44.Kg2→ White attacks.
[Resist 44.Qxa7?! Qe7±]
[44.Rh3!± Qe7 45.Bf1 *(45.Qxa7 Qe1+ 46.Kg2 Qd2+ 47.Kg1 Re7=)*]
44...Re3
[44...Qe7!=]
45.Qh2± Qe8?
[45...Qg8±]
46.Qh7+ Kf8 intending ...Re2+. **47.Kf2**
Precision: White = 41%, Black = 42%.
[Not 47.Qh8+ Ke7=]
1-0

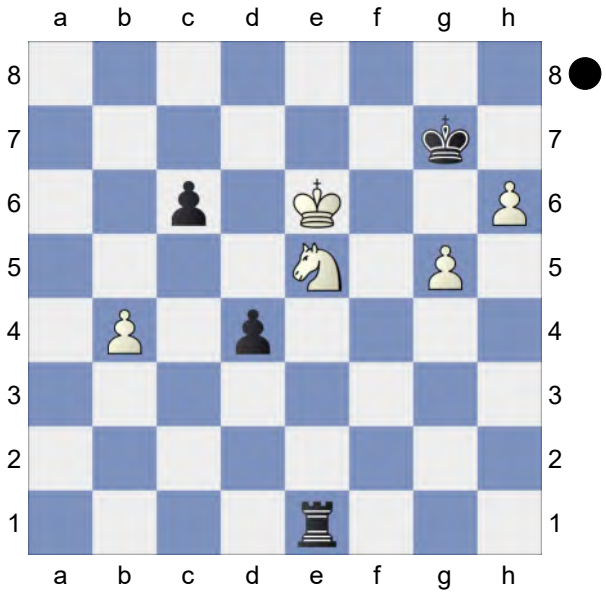
332 **C67**
□ **Adireddy,Arjun** **2336**
■ **Garv,Rai** **2277**
Masters Open 2024 (7.62) 10.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.Nxe5 Nxe5 7.Rxe5+ Be7 8.Bf1 0-0 9.d4 Bf6**

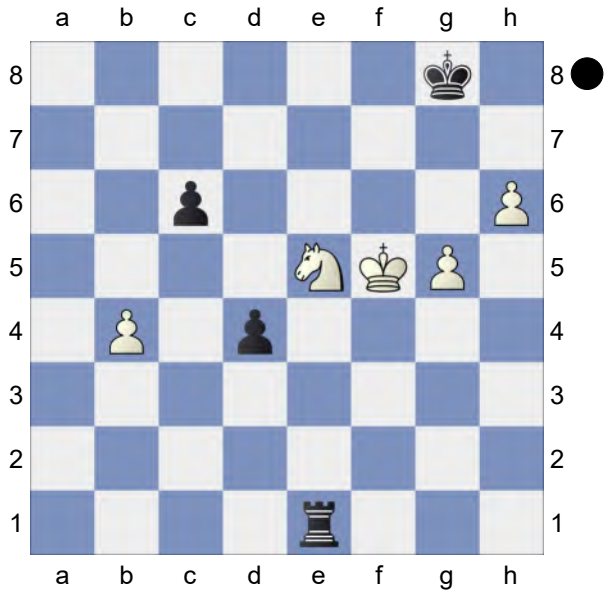


10.Bd3 -0.31/22 **Bxe5∓ 11.dxe5 Ne8** Black is slightly better. **12.Nc3 d6 13.Qh5 g6 14.Qh6 d5N** 2.67/22
[14...dxe5? 15.Bg5 Nf6 16.Qh4+-]
[14...Be6= -0.30/24 and Black is okay. 15.Bg5 Qd7]
[14...Qe7 15.exd6 Nxd6 16.Bg5 f6 17.Nd5 Qg7 18.Qxg7+ Kxg7 19.Nxc7 fxg5 20.Nxa8 Bf5 21.Nc7 Rc8 22.Nd5 Bxd3 23.cxd3 Rc2 24.g4 Rxb2 25.Re1 Rxa2 26.Re7+ Nf7 27.Rxb7 Rd2 28.Rxa7 Rxd3 29.Nc7 ½-½ Gurevich,M (2563)-4.c3 ♘f6 5.e5/6...f5 (2690) Grand Prix Rapidplay 2000 Kf6 30.Ne8+ Ke6 31.Ng7+ Kf6 32.Ne8+ Ke6 33.Ng7+ Kf6 34.Ne8+ ½-½ Yoo,C (2563)-Robson,R (2690) USA (ch) 154/124 2022]
15.Bg5+- Qd7 4.22/26
[15...f6 2.84/21 was called for. 16.exf6 Rf7]
16.Re1? 0.40/23
[16.Bf5!+- 4.22/26 Qc6 *(16...gxf5 17.Bf6 Nxf6* Remove Defender *18.exf6 Kh8 19.Qxf8#; 16...Qxf5? 17.Nxd5+-)* 17.Rd1]
16...c6± 17.f4 0.00/26
[17.Re3± 0.42/24 is superior. f6 18.exf6 Nxf6 19.h3]
17...f6= 18.exf6 Nxf6 19.f5 Qg7! 20.fxg6 hxg6 21.Bxg6 This pair of bishops is nice.
[21.Qxg6 Qxg6 22.Bxg6 Kg7∓]
21...Ng4!↑ Black has some pressure. Chess con chili. **22.Qxg7+ Kxg7 23.Bh5 Bf5! 24.Re7+! Kg8 25.Ne2** -0.88/21
[25.Rxb7∓ -0.40/21 Nf6 *(25...Rab8 26.Rxb8 Rxb8 27.h3±)* 26.Be2]
25...Nf6!∓ 26.Bxf6 Rxf6 27.c3 Bg6 -0.58/20
[27...Raf8∓ -1.13/20 Hoping for ... Bg4! 28.Nf4 Bg6 29.Bxg6 Rxf4 30.Bh7+ Kh8]
28.Bxg6∓ Rxg6 29.Rxb7 Endgame. KRR-KRN **29...Rg7** Prevents Rc7
30.Rb4 -1.14/22
[30.Rxg7+∓ -0.54/23 Kxg7 31.Nd4]
30...Re8 -0.64/19
[Black should play 30...c5∓ -1.14/22 31.Rf4 a5]
31.Nf4 Rd7 -0.25/21
[31...a5∓ -0.64/22 32.Rd4 Re1+ 33.Kf2 Rb1]
32.Rd4 -0.98/22
[32.Kf2= -0.25/21 keeps the balance.]
32...Re4 -0.31/25
[32...c5!∓ -0.98/22 33.Rd2 *(33.Rxd5 Rxd5 34.Nxd5 Re2∓)* 33...d4]

33.Kf2 Rxd4 34.cxd4 KR-KN **34...Re7 35.Ne2** -0.72/24
[35.b3∓ -0.36/28]
35...Kf7 Black has strong compensation. Black is more active.
[35...Rb7!? 36.b3□ Rf7+ 37.Ke1 Rh7∓]
36.Kf3 Re4
[36...Rb7!? 37.b3□ Re7∓]
37.h3 Kf6 38.g3 a5 Threatening ...a4. **39.b3 Ke6 40.h4 Kf5 41.g4+ Kf6 42.a3! Kf7 43.b4 a4 44.Nc3!**
[44.h5 Kf6 45.Nc3 Rxd4 46.Nxa4 Kg5-+]
44...Rxd4 White must now prevent ... Rd3+. **45.Nxa4 Rd3+ 46.Kf4 Rxa3 47.Nc5 Rc3 48.Kf5 Rf3+ 49.Ke5 Re3+ 50.Kf4**
[50.Kd6 d4 51.Kxc6 Rc3∓ *(51...d3 52.Nxd3 Rxd3 53.b5=)*]
50...Rc3 aiming for ...Rc4+. **51.Kf5 Rc4 52.Nd3 Kg7 53.h5 Kh6 54.Ne5 Rc1** ...Rf1+ is the strong threat. **55.Nf7+ Kg7 56.Ne5 Rf1+ 57.Ke6! d4** Strongly threatening ...Re1. **58.g5?** -7.88/22
[58.Kd6= -0.11/23]
58...Re1!-+ 59.h6+



Kg8! 60.Kf5



Rxe5+! 61.Kxe5 Intending g6! and mate. **61...d3** And now ...d2 would win. **62.Kf6** g6 would now be deadly. **62...d2 63.h7+ Kxh7 64.g6+ Kg8** What a bad dream for White. Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/Black=0.18 (very precise)
0-1

333 **C67**
□ **Bagwe,Gaurang** **2302**
■ **Garv,Rai** **2277**
Masters Open 2024 (4.67) 06.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Mikhalevski, V: 'GM Mihail Marin: 'LACK OF CLARITY AND RESOLUTION'' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Nc3 Ke8 10.h3 h5 11.Ne2 Be7**
[11...b6 12.Bg5 c5 13.Nc3 Bb7 14.Rfd1 Bxf3 15.gxf3 c6 16.f4 Be7 17.Ne4 Bxg5 18.fxg5 Ke7 19.Nd6 Ke6 20.Rd3 Rhd8 21.Re1 a5 22.f4

c4 23.Rdd1 b5 24.Kf2 a4 25.a3 g6 26.Kf3 1-0 4.d4 ♘f6 5.♗c4 (2767)-Corfield,J (2762) corr Afroatin Indiv. Prelim1 AFROATIN 1997 (14)]

12.Bf4

[12.Bg5 Be6 13.Nf4 Bd5 14.Bxe7 Kxe7 15.Ng5 Nd4 16.Rad1 Ne6 17.Ngxe6 Bxe6 18.h4 a5 19.a3 a4 20.Rfe1 g6 21.f3 Ra5 22.c3 Rb5 23.Re2 Ra8 24.Rd4 Raa5 25.Kf2 Rxe5 26.Rxe5 Rxe5 1-0 Carlsen,M (2772)-Jakovenko,D (2760) Dortmund SuperGM 37th 2009 (1)]

12...Be6N The position is equal.

[12...c5 13.Rfd1 Be6 14.Bg5 Bc4 15.Nc3 c6 16.Bxe7 Kxe7 17.Ne4 Be2 18.Nd6 Nxd6 19.exd6+ Kf6 20.Rd2 Bxf3 21.gxf3 Rhd8 22.d7 b6 23.Re1 g6 24.f4 Kf5 25.Rd6 Rf8 26.Re7 f6 27.Rxc6 1-0 Gopal,G (2611)-Petrosian,T (2597) Martuni 109/(194) 2010]

13.Ned4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Rd8 15.Nxe6 fxe6 16.Rad1 Kf7 0.19/20

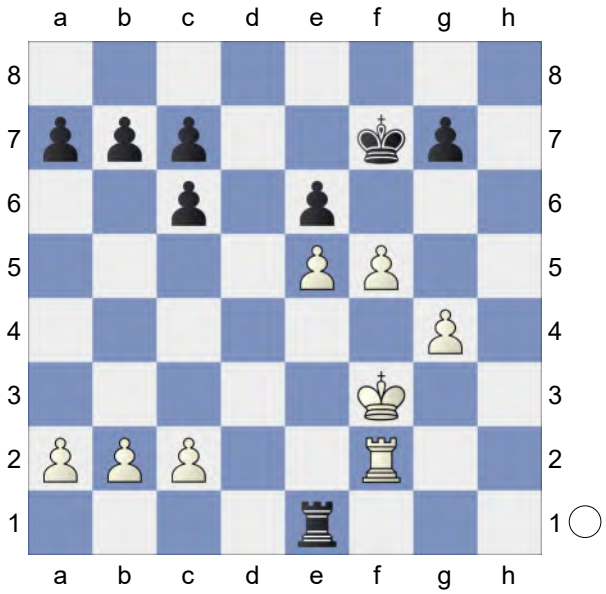
[16...Rd5 -0.20/20 should be considered.]

17.g3= Kg6 18.Kg2 Rxd1 19.Rxd1± Endgame. KRB-KRB **19...Rd8** Inhibits Rd7. **20.Re1** 0.00/28

[20.Rxd8± 0.66/19 Bxd8 21.g4]

20...Bg5= 21.Bxg5 Kxg5 KR-KR **22.f4+ Kg6 23.Kf3 Rd2 24.Re2 Rd1 25.g4 hxg4+ 26.hxg4 Kf7 27.f5 Rf1+ 28.Rf2 Re1**

(Diagram)



Hoping for ...exf5. **29.Kf4 Ke7** 0.79/23

[29...exf5= 0.19/21 remains equal. 30.gxf5 g6]

30.Rh2 0.04/22

[White should play 30.b3± 0.79/23]

30...Rf1+ 31.Kg5 f6+! would now be deadly. **31...exf5 32.gxf5 Rg1+ 33.Kf4 Rf1+! 34.Kg4** 0.03/22

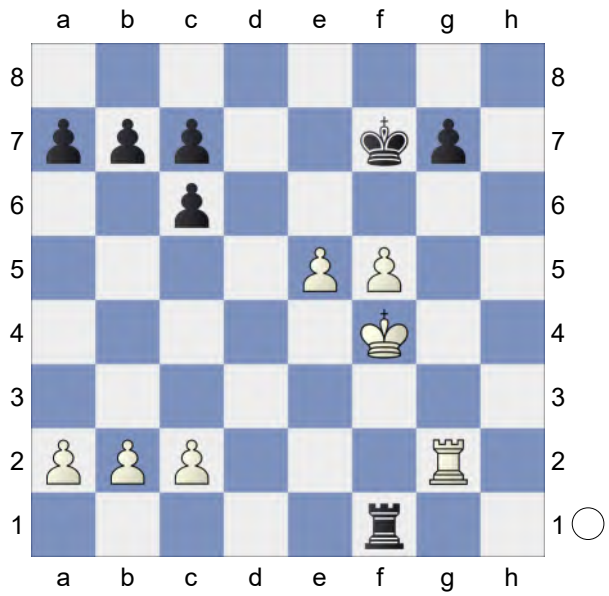
[White should try 34.Kg5!± 0.67/25]

34...Re1! 35.Rg2 Strongly threatening Kf4. **35...Kf7?** 2.36/25 This costs Black the game.

[35...Re4+= 0.03/30 and Black stays safe. 36.Kg5 Rxe5]

36.Kf4+- Rf1+

(Diagram)

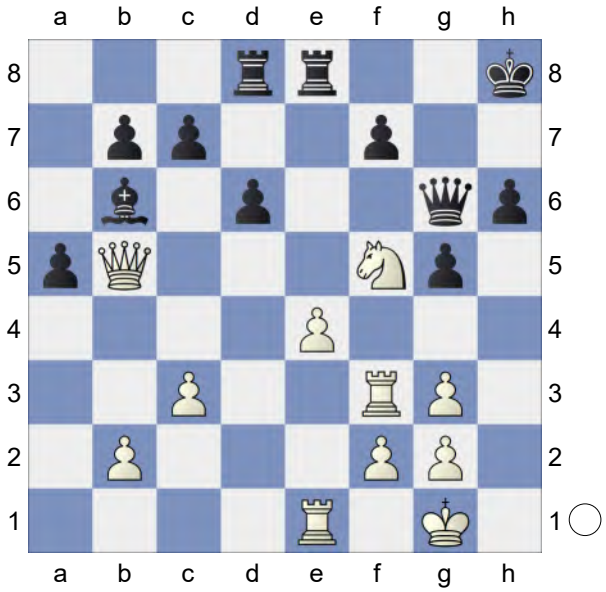


37.Kg5! Re1 2.42/25
[⌓37...a5 1.98/25 38.e6+ Kf8]
38.e6+ Kf8 39.Rg3 Re2? 5.83/22
[39...a5 2.11/20 is more resistant. 40.Rd3 Rg1+ 41.Kh5 Rh1+ 42.Kg4 Rg1+ 43.Rg3 Rc1 *(43...Rxg3+ 44.Kxg3 Ke7 45.Kf4+-)*]
40.Rd3 Rg2+ 41.Kf4 Rf2+ 42.Kg4 Rxc2 43.Rd8+ Ke7 44.Rd7+ Ke8 45.Kf3
[45.Rxg7? is the wrong capture. Rg2+ *(45...Rxb2 46.f6 Kf8 47.e7+ Ke8 48.Rg8+ Kd7 49.Rd8+ Ke6 50.e8Q+ Kxf6 51.Qf8+ Kg6 52.Qf5+ Kg7 53.Qg5+ Kh7 54.Rd7+ Kh8 55.Qg7#)* 46.Kf4 Rxg7-+]
45...Rxb2 46.Rxg7 White threatens f6 and mate. **46...Rb1 47.Rxc7 a5 48.Kf4 a4 49.Ke5 Kd8** Inhibits Rc8+. **50.Rd7+ Kc8 51.f6 a3 52.f7 Re1+ 53.Kd6 Rf1 54.Rc7+ Kb8 55.Re7** 11.91/20
[⌓55.Rd7 24.22/20 Ka7 56.e7 Kb6 57.e8Q *(57.f8Q Rd1+ 58.Ke6 Re1+ 59.Kf7 Rh1 60.Qd8+* Overworked Piece *Kb5 61.e8Q Rf1+ 62.Kg8 Rg1+ 63.Rg7 Rxg7+ 64.Kxg7 Kc4 65.Qe2+ Kb4 66.Qb6+ Kc3 67.Qc5#)* 57...Rd1+ 58.Ke7 Rh1 59.Kd8 *(59.f8R Re1+ 60.Kd8 Rxe8+ 61.Rxe8 Kb5 62.Rxb7+ Kc4 63.Kd7 Kd4 64.Rb4+ Kd3)* 59...Rf1 60.Qe3+ *(60.f8R Rxf8 61.Qxf8 c5 62.Qf3 Kb5 63.Qxb7+ Ka5 64.Qb8 c4 65.Ra7#)* 60...Ka6 61.Qd3+ *(61.Qxa3+ Kb5 62.Qb2+ Ka4 63.Qd4+ Ka5 64.Rxb7 Rd1* Pin *65.Ra7+ Kb5 66.a4#)* 61...Kb6 62.Qxf1 c5 63.f8Q *(63.f8N Ka5 64.Rxb7 c4 65.Qf5+ Ka6 66.Qb5#)* 63...Ka7 64.Qb5 Kb8 65.Qxb7#]
55...Ka7 56.Re8 Weighted Error Value: White=0.12 (very precise) /Black=0.56
1-0

334 **C65**
□ **Zhang,Lanlin** **2231**
■ **Zhai,Mo** **2390**
CHN-ch Rapid (Women) (5) 12.11.2024
[Kitty Kat]

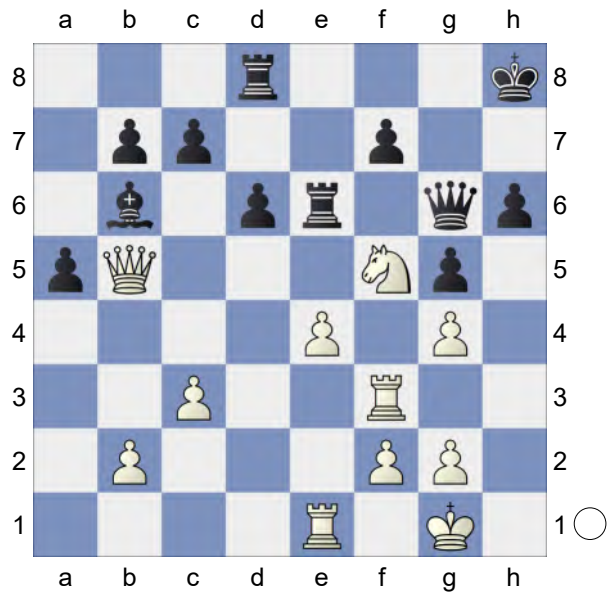
C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.Bg5** 7.h3 is setting a new trend. 7.h3 setzt einen neuen Trend. **7...h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Bb6N** 0.40/19
[9...Nh5= -0.04/18 10.Nbd2 Qf6 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.d4 exd4 13.e5 Qg7 14.cxd4 Bb6 15.a4 a5 16.Nc4 Be6 17.Rc1 Nxg3 18.hxg3 Bxc4 19.Rxc4 Rad8 20.Re1 Rfe8 21.exd6 Rxe1+ 22.Qxe1 Rxd6 23.Rxc6 Rxc6 24.Qe8+ Kh7 1-0 Caruana,F (2747)-Ponkratov,P (2569) Wch Rapid Almaty 2022 (7) 25.Qxc6 Qg6 26.Qd7 Kg7 27.Ne5 Qe6 28.Qxe6 fxe6 29.Nc4 Kf6 30.Nxb6 cxb6 31.g4 e5 32.dxe5+ Kxe5 33.g3 Kd4 34.f4 1-0 Caruana,F (2800)-Howell,D

(2658) 150/117 Riga 2021]
[9...Bg4 10.Bxc6 bxc6 11.d4 Bb6 12.dxe5 Nxe4 N,N-Austrian 6.e5 Play the Power Pirc 2023]
10.Nbd2± Ne7 11.d4 exd4 12.Nxd4 Ng6 13.Bd3N White is more active.
[13.Kh1 Bd7 0.92/19 *(13...h5± 0.43/19)* 14.Bd3 0.54/18 *(14.Bxd7± 0.92/19 Qxd7 15.f4 gxf4 16.Bxf4)* 14...Re8 1.08/19 *(14...h5± 0.54/18)* 15.f4± Bg4 1.20/20 *(15...gxf4± 0.69/19 16.Bxf4 d5)* 16.Qc2? -0.55/20 *(16.Be2± 1.20/20 Bd7 17.fxg5 hxg5 18.Nf5)* 16...gxf4 0.79/19 *(16...Nh5∓ -0.55/20* stays ahead. *17.f5 Nxg3+* Remove Defender *18.hxg3 Ne5)* 17.Bxf4± Nh5 18.Be3! Qh4 2.11/20 *(18...Ne5± 0.84/18)* 19.Bf2 1.17/18 ;1-0 Fedoseev,V (2676)-Makarian,R (2441) Titled Tuesday intern op 10th Nov blitz 2020 (7) *(19.N2f3+- 2.11/20 Ng3+ 20.Kg1)*]
13...Re8 14.Re1 0.22/18
[14.h3± 0.58/19]
14...Bg4 15.Qc2 Ne5 16.Bf1 Nh5 17.Nc4 -0.37/22
[17.Bxe5± 0.32/19 dxe5 18.Nf5 Bxf5 19.exf5]
17...Nxc4∓ 18.Bxc4 Nxg3 19.hxg3 Qf6 20.Qd3 Re7 21.Rf1 -0.83/20
[21.Nf5= -0.23/21 keeps the balance. Bxf5 22.exf5]
21...Rae8∓ Strongly threatening ... Bb6xd4!. **22.Rae1 Qg6 23.Re3 Kh8**
[23...Rxe4? 24.f3 *(24.Bd5 Bf5+-)* 24...Kg7 *(24...Bxd4? 25.cxd4 R8e7 26.fxg4+-)* 25.fxe4+- *(25.Rxe4 Bf5+-)*]
24.Rfe1 Qf6 25.a4 a5 26.Rf1 Qg6 27.Rfe1 Qf6 -0.01/20
[27...h5∓ -0.47/20 might be stronger.]
28.Rf1!= Bd7 0.16/20
[28...h5∓ -0.64/20]
29.Rfe1 -0.57/20
[Better is 29.Rf3= 0.16/20 Qg6 30.b3]
29...Bxa4 0.16/22
[Black should play 29...g4∓ -0.57/20]
30.Rf3 Qg6 White should prevent ...Ba4-d7!. **31.Nf5 Rd7** 1.47/23
[31...Bd7= -0.01/23]
32.Bb5 Bxb5 33.Qxb5 Rdd8 1.65/22
[33...Qe6± 1.02/22]

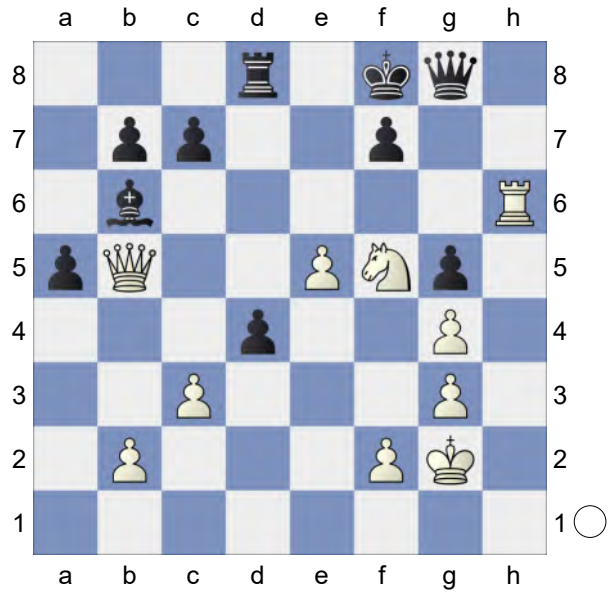


34.g4!+- White has strong compensation. **34...Re6** 2.79/24
[34...Re5± 1.46/21 35.Qd3 Rde8]

(Diagram)



35.Rh3! Qh7 4.35/22
[35...Re5 2.15/23 keeps fighting. 36.Qe2 *(36.Rxh6+ Qxh6∓)* 36...Rxf5 37.exf5 Qf6]
36.g3 d5 37.e5 Kg8 38.Kg2 Hoping for Re1-h1. **38...Kf8?** 7.10/23
[38...Qh8 3.68/20 39.f4 d4]
39.Reh1 d4 40.Rxh6
[40.Nxh6? perishes. Qe4+ 41.Kh2 Rxe5-+]
40...Rxh6 41.Rxh6 Qg8



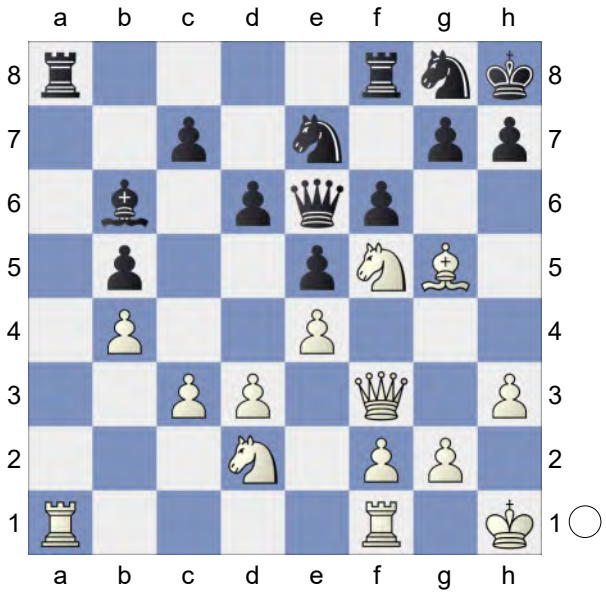
42.e6! Re8
[42...fxe6 43.Rf6+]
43.exf7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.36/Black=0.77
1-0

335 **C65**
□ **Munguntuul,Batkhuyag** **2342**
■ **Yakubbaeva,Nilufar** **2241**
Masters Open 2024 (2.67) 04.12.2024
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 It's great pity that it was the last Amber tournament... **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.Qe2 Bc5 5.c3 0-0 6.d3 d6**
[6...Re8 7.Ba4 d5 8.h3 h6 9.g4 Nh7 10.Nbd2 Bd7 11.Bb3 Be6 12.exd5 Bxd5 13.Ne4 Bf8 14.g5 Bxb3 15.axb3 Qd5 16.Rg1 h5 17.g6 fxg6 18.Rxg6 Re6 19.Rg3 Be7 20.Nfg5 Bxg5 21.Bxg5 1-0 Gashimov,V (2746)-Kramnik,V (2785) Amber-rapid 20th Monte Carlo 2011 (8)]
7.h3 '!' now scores much better than the old 7.Bg5. punktet besser als das ältere 7.Lg5. **7...a6N**
[7...Bb6 8.Nbd2 Ne7 9.Ba4 Ng6 10.Nf1 c6 11.Be3 d5 12.0-0-0 Be6 13.Kb1 Bxe3 14.Qxe3 b5 15.Bc2 a5 16.d4 Nxe4 17.Nxe5 b4 18.f3 Nd6 19.Nd2 Qb6 20.cxb4 axb4 21.g4 Nc4 22.Ndxc4 1-0 Bortnyk,O (2604)-Swiercz,D (2646) Speed Chess Q2 Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (5)]
[7...h6 8.Nbd2 a6 9.Ba4 b5 10.Bc2 Bb7 11.Nf1 d5 12.g4 b4 13.g5 hxg5 14.Bxg5 Be7 15.Rg1 bxc3 16.bxc3 a5 17.Nh4 dxe4 18.Bh6 g6 19.dxe4 Kh7 20.Bxf8 Bxf8 21.Ne3 Nh5 22.Nhg2 1-0 Bortnyk,O (2604)-Aditya,M (2486) Speed Chess Q2

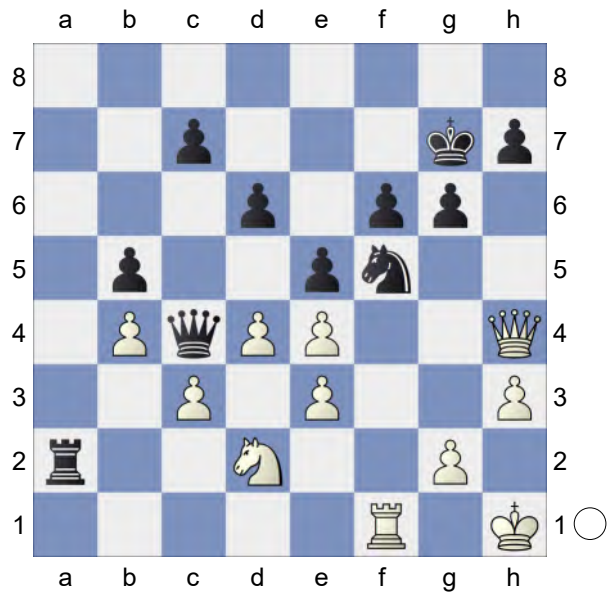
Chess.com INT blitz 2022 (2)]
8.Ba4 b5 The position is equal. **9.Bb3 Be6** 0.09/20
[9...Rb8∓ -0.32/21 is superior.]
10.Bg5 Bxb3 11.axb3 Qe7 12.b4 'N'
[12.Nbd2 h6 13.Bxf6 Qxf6 14.Nf1 Ne7 15.Ne3 Qe6 16.b4 Bb6 17.Nh4 g6 18.0-0 ½-½ Tazbir,M (2511)-Teclaf,P (2550) Rubinstein Memorial 58th 2022 (2)]
12...Bb6 13.Nbd2 Qe6 14.0-0 a5 15.bxa5 Nxa5 16.Nh4 -0.02/22
[16.d4± 0.44/24]
16...Nc6 0.42/20
[16...h6= -0.02/22 17.Bxf6 Qxf6]
17.Nf5 0.05/20
[17.Qf3± 0.42/20 is more appropriate.]
17...Ne7 0.58/23
[17...h6= 0.05/20 18.Bxf6 Qxf6]
18.Qf3 Kh8 0.99/21
[18...Nxf5= 0.25/20 remains equal. 19.exf5 Qd5]
19.Kh1 0.15/23
[19.Nxe7± 0.99/21 Qxe7 20.Rfb1]
19...Nfg8= 20.b4
[20.d4 simplifies Rxa1 21.Rxa1 exd4 22.Bxe7 Nxe7 23.Nxd4 Bxd4 24.cxd4 h6 25.Qc3]
20...f6

(Diagram)



White must now prevent ...Rxa1. **21.Be3 Bxe3 22.fxe3**
[22.Nxe3 simplifies Ra2 23.Rxa2 Qxa2 24.Qe2]
22...Ra2 23.Qg3 g6 -0.10/24
[23...Nxf5∓ -0.51/24 24.exf5 Qf7]
24.Nxe7→ Black needs to defend precisely. **24...Nxe7 25.Nf3** -0.70/21
[White should play 25.Qe1= 0.00/21]
25...Rfa8∓ 26.Rxa2 Rxa2 27.Qh4 -1.07/22
[White should try 27.d4∓ -0.50/20]
27...Kg7 28.d4 Qc4 29.Nd2 Nf5? 3.72/22
[29...Rxd2 30.Qxf6+ *(30.Rxf6? Qe2-+)* 30...Kh6 31.Qh4+ *(31.dxe5? Qxe4 32.Rg1 Qxe5-+)* 31...Kg7 32.Qxe7+ Kh6 33.Qf8+ Kh5 34.Rf5+ g5 35.Rxg5+ Decoy, Clearance *(35.dxe5 Qe6+-)* 35...Kxg5 36.Qf5+ Kh6 37.Qf6+ Kh5 38.g4#]
[29...Qf7∓ -0.58/22 stays ahead. 30.Nf3 Qe6]

(Diagram)

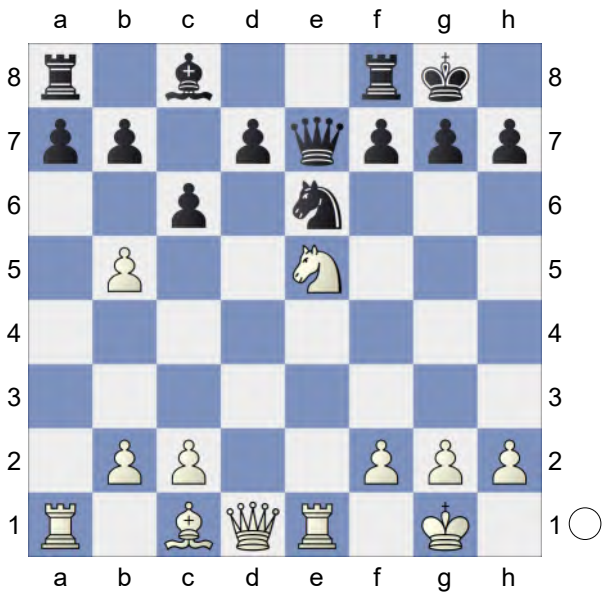


Loses the game. **30.Rxf5+-**
[30.exf5 Rxd2 31.Rg1 Qd3= *(31...Qxc3 32.fxg6 hxg6 33.Rf1=; 31...gxf5 32.Qg3+ Kh6 33.Qh4+ Kg7 34.Qg3+ Kh6 35.Qh4+ Kg7=)*]
30...Qe6 31.Rf2 exd4 32.exd4 f5 6.38/20
[⌓32...h6 4.32/18 33.Kh2 Ra1]
33.Kh2 Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.55
1-0

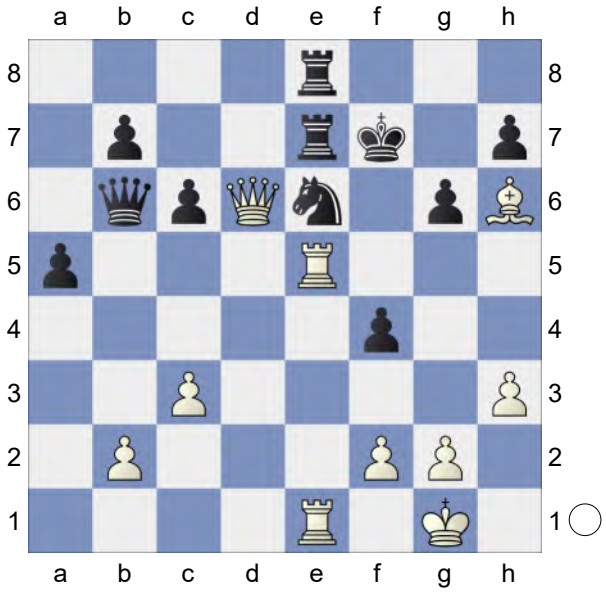
336 **C67**
□ **Fedotov,Nikita1** **2311**
■ **Todorovic,Bojan** **2130**
Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early b..
[Kitty Kat]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.Re1 Nd6 6.a4 Be7! 7.Nc3 0-0** 7...a6 gains popularity. 7...a6 wird beliebter.
[7...a6 8.Bf1 e4 9.Nxe4 Nxe4 10.Rxe4 d5 11.Re1 d4 12.Bd3 Be6 13.Rxe6 fxe6 14.Be4 d3 15.Bxd3 0-0 16.Be4 Nd4 17.d3 Nxf3+ 18.Bxf3 Nihal,S (2651)-Robson,R (2682) 153/(131) Abu Dhabi 2022]
8.d4 The position is equal. **8...Nxb5** 0.51/21
[Black should play 8...Nxd4= -0.01/20 9.Nxd4 exd4]
9.axb5± Nxd4 10.Nxe5N -0.27/20
[10.Nxd4± 0.64/21 exd4 11.Nd5 Re8 *(11...Bf6 12.Bf4 d6 13.b6 cxb6 14.Qf3 Bf5 15.Re2 Rc8 16.Rxa7 Rxc2 17.Rxc2 Bxc2 18.h3 Be5 19.Rxb7 d3 20.Rxb6 Re8 21.Rc6 h6 22.Nc3 Qf6 23.Bxe5 Qxf3 24.gxf3 dxe5 25.Rd6 Rb8 26.Ne4* 0-1 Nikulina,A (1875)-Guimaraes,D (2299) Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early blitz 2025 (9)*)* 12.Qe2 Kf8 13.Qh5 Kg8 14.Bg5 Bxg5 15.Qxg5 h6 16.Rxe8+ Qxe8 17.Qg3 Qe2 18.Nxc7 d3 19.Nxa8 dxc2 20.Qe3 Qd1+ 21.Qe1 Qd6 22.Qe8+ Kh7 23.Qe4+ ½-½ Khamrakulov,I (2604)-Lopez Martinez,J (2563) ESP-ch ko Ayamonte 2007 (3.1)]
10...Ne6 11.Nd5 c6N 1.09/21
[11...Bc5 12.Nd3 and Nd3xc5 would now be decisive Bd6 13.c4 -0.54/18 *(13.b6=* -0.01/18 *)* 13...c6 0.06/19 *(13...b6!∓* -0.54/18 *)* 14.Nc3 -0.45/17 *(14.Ne3!=* 0.06/19 *)* 14...Qh4 -0.01/19 *(14...Bc7∓* -0.45/17 is superior.*)* 15.g3= Qd8! 16.Be3 Bb8 17.Qf3 a6 1-0 Xhembulla,A (2091)-Ramaj,E (1861) EU-ch Cities&Town op 2023]
[11...d6= -0.29/19 12.Nc4 b6]
12.Nxe7+± Qxe7

(Diagram)



Black is weak on the dark squares **13.b6** 0.06/19
[13.Nc4!± 1.12/19]
13...a5!= 14.Qh5 -0.66/18
[14.b3!= 0.30/17]
14...f5 0.09/19
[14...Qb4∓ -0.66/18 15.c3 Qb5]
15.Ra3 g6 0.96/19
[15...Qb4= 0.01/19 keeps the balance. 16.Nd3 Qxb6]
16.Rg3↑ White has strong compensation. Keeping Black busy. White is much more active. **16...Ng7** 1.74/22
[16...Rf6± 0.91/22]
17.Qd1+- Qc5? 3.33/21
[17...Re8± 1.45/19 was necessary. 18.Bg5 Qf8]
18.Bh6
[18.Nxd7 Bxd7 19.Qxd7 Rf7±]
18...Re8? 6.24/23
[18...Rf6 3.34/18 19.Nd3 *(19.Nxd7 Bxd7 20.Rc3 Qb4±)* 19...Qd4]
19.Rge3? 2.20/22
[19.Nxd7? Rxe1+ 20.Qxe1 Bxd7-+]
[19.Nxg6 6.24/23 Intending Re1xe8+ and mate. Rxe1+ 20.Qxe1 hxg6 21.Rxg6]
19...Ne6 20.Nxd7 Bxd7 21.Qxd7 Re7 22.Qd3 Rae8 23.h3? 0.57/22
[White should try 23.Qb3+- 2.11/22 Qb4 24.Qa2 *(24.Rxe6 Qxb3 25.Rxe7 Rxe7∓)*]
23...f4? 6.48/21
[23...Qb4± 0.57/22]
24.Re5 Qb4 25.c3 Qxb6 26.Qd6 5.05/21
[⌓26.Rxe6 11.58/21 Qe3 27.R1xe3 *(27.fxe3 Rxe6 28.Qd4 R6e7+-; 27.R6xe3 fxe3 28.Qc4+ Kh8 29.Qd4+ Kg8 30.Rxe3 b5 31.Qf6 Rd8 32.Rxe7 Rd1+ 33.Kh2 Rh1+ 34.Kxh1 c5 35.Qg7#)* 27...fxe3 28.Rxe7 exf2+ 29.Kf1 *(29.Kxf2 Rxe7 30.Qc4+ Rf7+ 31.Ke2 b6 32.Qe6 Kh8 33.Qe8+ Rf8 34.Qxf8#)* 29...Rxe7 30.Qc4+ *(30.Kxf2 Kf7+-)* 30...Kh8 31.Qf4 *(31.Kxf2 Re5 32.Qd4 Kg8 33.Qd7 Rf5+ 34.Kg1 Rf1+ 35.Kxf1 Kh8 36.Qg7#)* 31...Re1+ 32.Kxf2 Re8 33.Qf6+ Kg8 34.Qg7#]
26...Kf7



27.Bxf4? 0.23/24 **Rd8?** 13.27/21
[27...Qd8= 0.23/24 28.R5e3 Rd7]
28.Rxe6 Rxd6 29.Rxe7+ Kf6 30.Bxd6 Qxb2 31.Bg3 10.96/23

[⧲31.R1e6+ #8/20 Kg5 32.f4+ *(32.Rxh7 Qxc3 33.g4 Qc1+ 34.Kg2 Qc2 35.Rf7 Qd2 36.Re5+ Kh4 37.Rh7+ Qh6 38.Rxh6#)* 32...Kh6 33.Rf7 Qb6+ 34.Kh2 Qd8 35.Be7 *(35.Rxb7 Qc8 36.g4 Qxb7 37.Bf8+ Qg7 38.Re7* Pin *Qxf8 39.g5+* Deflection *Kh5 40.Rxh7+ Qh6 41.Rxh6#; 35.Bf8+ Qxf8 36.Rxf8 Kg7 37.Ref6 g5 38.R8f7+ Kg8 39.Rxb7 g4 40.Rxc6 g3+ 41.Kxg3 Kh8 42.Rc8#)* 35...b5 36.Bxd8 *(36.Bg5+ Qxg5 37.fxg5+ Kxg5 38.Re5+ Kh6 39.g4 b4 40.g5+* Deflection *Kh5 41.Rxh7#)* 36...c5 37.Bg5+ Deflection Kh5 38.Rxh7#]

31...g5 32.h4 9.46/21

[⧲32.R1e6+ #9/19 Kf5 33.Rd6 Qc1+ 34.Kh2 Qf4 35.Bxf4 *(35.Rf7+ Ke5 36.Bxf4+ gxf4 37.Rff6 h5 38.g4 fxg3+ 39.Kxg3 Ke4 40.f3+ Ke5 41.f4+ Ke4 42.Rfe6+ Kf5 43.Re5#)* 35...gxf4 36.h4 *(36.Rxb7 f3 37.Rxc6 fxg2 38.Kxg2 Ke4 39.Rd7 Ke5 40.Kf3 a4 41.c4 h5 42.Rd5#)* 36...c5 37.f3 *(37.Rxb7 Ke5 38.Rbd7 f3 39.gxf3 h5 40.Kg3 a4 41.f4+ Kf5 42.Re7 c4 43.Re5#)* 37...b5 38.Rb6 *(38.Rxh7 Ke5 39.Rhh6 a4 40.Rd2 c4 41.Rhd6 Kf5 42.R2d5#)* 38...b4 39.Rc7 bxc3 40.Rxc5#]

32...g4 33.h5 Weighted Error Value: White=1.20/Black=1.46

1-0

337 **C67**

□ **Butu,Sebastian** **2257**

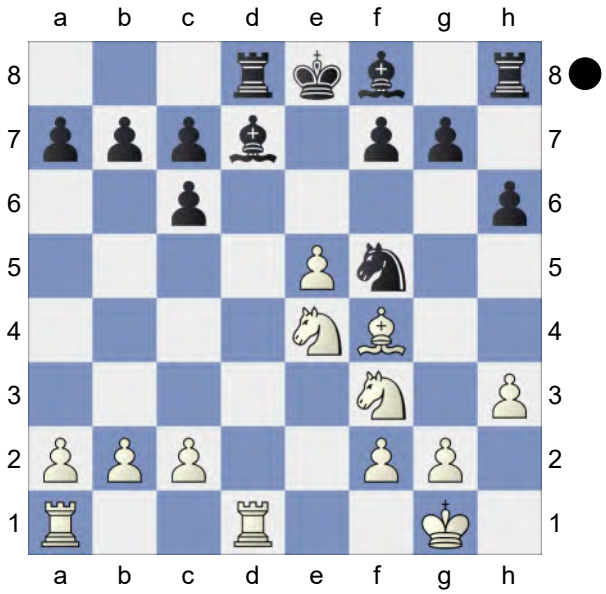
■ **Rotaru,Ion** **2279**

corr ROU/C62/F (ROU) 15.03.2023

[Butu,S]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Nd6 6.Bxc6 dxc6 7.dxe5 Nf5 8.Qxd8+ Kxd8 9.Rd1+ The idea of this move is to keep the king on the kingside, and to try to exploit the disconnection of the black rooks. **9...Ke8 10.Nc3 Bd7** C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4. **11.h3 h6 12.Bf4 Rd8** White has an edge. **13.Ne4** 13.e6 didn't pose serious problems to my opponent.

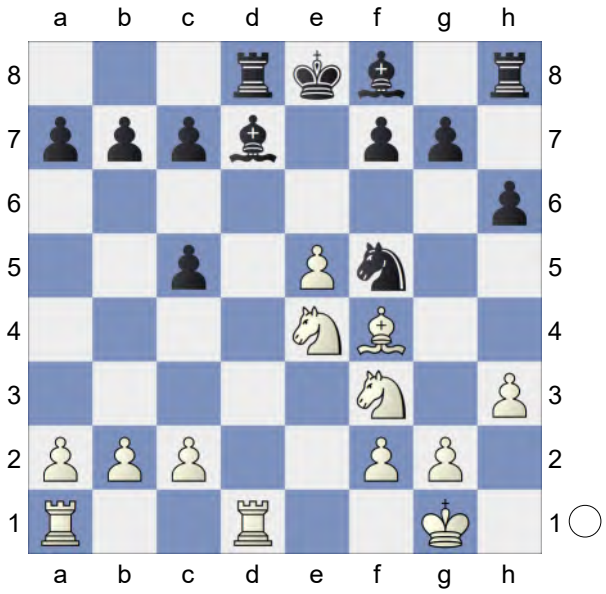
[13.e6 Bxe6 14.Bxc7 Rxd1+ 15.Rxd1 Be7 16.g4 Nh4 17.Nd4 Bd7 18.Re1 Kf8 19.Bg3 g5 20.Bxh4 gxh4 21.Ne4 Kg7 , although perhaps if I had played more accurately here I could have counted on a minuscule advantage.]



This is the new move. In the aforementioned game against Ponomariov, I played 13.e6 and didn't

pose serious problems to my opponent. **13...c5N**

[Predecessor: 13...Be7 After the trade of knights White's position is very comfortable.]

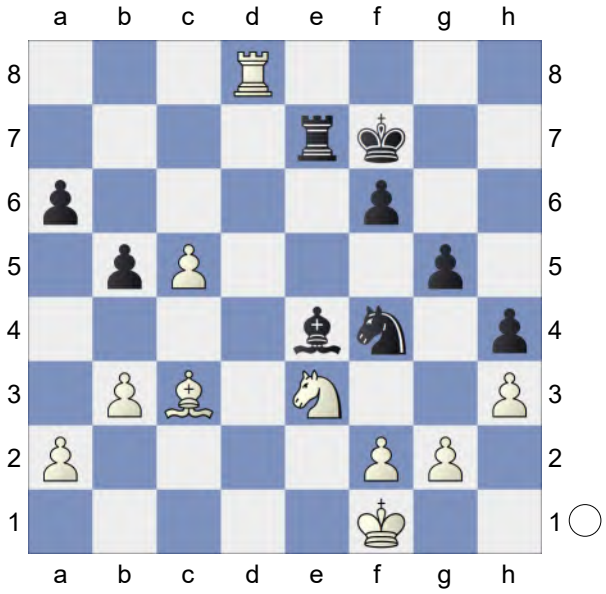


seems like the most critical move. **14.e6!** Discovered Attack **14...Bxe6 15.Bxc7 Rc8 16.Bh2** with a small advantage, but Black should be able to defend with accuracy. **16...Be7 17.c3 h5 18.Re1 Rc6 19.Ne5 Rb6 20.b3 Ra6 21.Bf4 h4 22.Nd3** A dynamic duo of knights. **22...Rc6 23.Rad1 b6! 24.Ne5 Rc8 25.Ng5** White has more active pieces. **25...Bxg5 26.Bxg5 Rh5! 27.Nf3 Kf8** Black is weak on the dark squares **28.Bf4 Re8! 29.Ng5 Bc8 30.Rxe8+ Kxe8 31.Re1+ Kf8 32.Nf3 f6 33.Bb8 a6 34.Ba7** Deflection **34...b5 35.Bxc5+ Kf7 36.Rd1 Rh8** Repels Rd8 **37.Bb6 g5 38.Ba5 Re8 39.Kf1 Ne7 40.Nd4 Ng6 41.Nc6 Bf5 42.Nd4 Bd7 43.Nc2 Bf5 44.Ne3 Be4 45.c4↑** White is more active. **45...Nf4 46.c5**

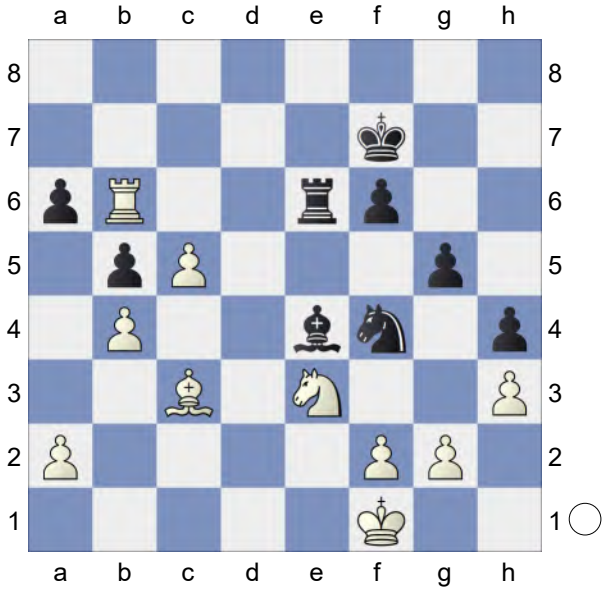
[White should try 46.Rd7+± Re7 47.Rxe7+ Kxe7 48.f3]

46...Bc6± 47.Bc3 Re7 48.Rd8 Be4

[48...Rd7± feels stronger. 49.Rc8 Bb7]



49.b4!± Bc6 50.Rb8 Be4 51.Rb6 Re6



52.Bd2! Nd5 53.Rb8 Nxe3+ 54.Bxe3 Endgame. KRB-KRB **54...Bd3+ 55.Kg1 Be4** Prevents Rb7+ **56.Kh2 Bd5 57.a3 Bc6 58.Bd4 Bd5 59.Rd8 Bc6 60.Rh8 Re4 61.Rh7+**

[61.Bxf6?! Rf4 62.Bxg5 Rxf2 63.Rh7+ *(63.Rxh4 Rxg2+ 64.Kh1 Rxg5+* Discovered Attack (Check) *65.Kh2 Rg2+ 66.Kh1 Rg4+ 67.Kh2*

Rg2+ 68.Kh1 Rg5+ 69.Kh2 Rg2+) 63...Kg8=]

61...Kg6 62.Rc7 Bd5 63.Bc3 Re6 64.Ra7 Kf5 65.Kg1 Kg6 66.Rc7 Kf5 67.Rd7 Bc6 68.Rf7 Kg6 69.Rf8 Kf5

[Black should play 69...Kg7 70.Rc8 Kg6]

70.g3 hxg3

[70...Kg6± keeps fighting. 71.gxh4 gxh4]

71.fxg3+- Kg6 72.Bd4 Kg7 73.Rb8 Bd5?

[73...Kg6 74.Kf2 Kf5]

74.Kf2 Kf7 75.Rb6 Kg6 76.Bc3 Rc6 77.h4 gxh4 78.gxh4 Kf5 79.Kg3 Bh1 80.Bd2 Rc8 81.Rxa6 Rg8+ 82.Kh2 Be4 White must now prevent ...Rg2+. **83.Bc3 Rg6 84.Rd6 Bf3 85.Bd4 Be4 86.h5 Rg2+ 87.Kh3 Kg5 88.c6**

[88.Bxf6+ Kf4±]

88...Kxh5 89.c7

[Weaker is 89.Bxf6 Rc2±]

89...Rc2 90.Bc5

[Less strong is 90.Bxf6 Rxc7 91.Kg3 Rc6±]

90...Bf5+ 91.Kg3 Strongly threatening Rd5! **91...Kg6 92.Rb6 Rc3+ 93.Kf4 Rc4+ 94.Ke3 Rc3+ 95.Kd2 Rd3+ 96.Ke1 Rxa3 97.Rxb5 Ra1+ 98.Kd2** aiming for Rb8. **98...Ra2+ 99.Ke3** Rb8 would now be deadly. **99...Ra6 100.Rb7 Rc6 101.Kd4** Threatens to win with b5. **101...Ra6 102.Kc4**

[⩲102.Ra7 Re6 103.c8Q Re4+ 104.Kd3 Re5+ 105.Qxf5+ Rxf5 106.Rc7 Rf3+ 107.Kc2]

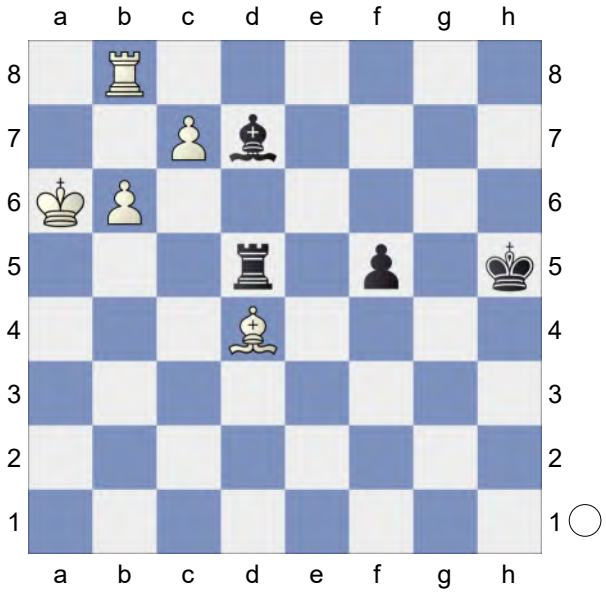
102...Kh5 103.b5

[⩲103.Rb6 Rxb6 104.Bxb6]

103...Be6+ 104.Kb4 Ra1 105.Rb8 Rb1+ 106.Ka5 Bd7 107.Bd4

[⩲107.Ka4 Rxb5 108.Rxb5 Kg4 109.Kb4 Kg3 110.Rb8 Kh4 111.c8Q *(111.c8R Bxc8 112.Rxc8 Kg5 113.Kc4 Kf5 114.Kd5 Kf4 115.Rg8 f5)* 111...Bxc8 112.Rxc8]

107...f5 108.b6 Rb5+ 109.Ka6 Rd5



110.b7! White mates. **110...Rxd4 111.Rh8+ Kg4 112.b8Q Ra4+ 113.Kb6 Rb4+ 114.Kc5 Rxb8 115.cxb8Q**

1-0

338 **C65**

□ **Andrade,Ivan** **2161**

■ **Thornton,Christian** **1766**

Titled Tuesday intern op 14th Jan Early b..

[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.h3 0-0 7.c3** 7.c3 is better than 7. Bg5. 7.c3 ist besser als 7.Lg5. **7...Ne7 8.Bg5**

[8.d4 Bb6 9.Bd3 Ng6 *(9...d5 10.Nbd2 dxe4 11.Nxe4 Nxe4 12.Bxe4 exd4 13.Qc2 h6 14.a4 c5 15.Rd1 Nc6 16.b4 cxb4 17.cxd4 Re8 18.d5 b3 19.Qb1 Na5 20.Bf4 Qf6 21.Bg3 Bd7 22.Re1 b2 23.Ra2*

Nc4 24.a5 0-1 Uskov,A (2440)-Ponkratov,P (2555) Moscow Dvoretsky Memorial 2025 (4.2)) 10.Re1 Re8 11.Qc2 c6 12.Na3 Bc7 13.dxe5 Nxe5 14.Nxe5 dxe5 15.Be2 h6 16.Nc4 Nh7 17.Rd1 Qf6 18.Ne3 Qg6 19.Bg4 Bxg4 20.Nxg4 Bb6 21.a4 h5 22.Nh2 Nf6 ½-½ 4.d4 ♘f6 5.♗c4 (2788)-Hantel,T (2801) Ostrava 1991 (4)]

8...Ng6 9.d4N

[9.Nh4 h6 10.Nxg6 fxg6 11.Bc4+ Kh7 12.Be3 Bxe3 13.fxe3 Qe7 14.Nd2 Bd7 15.Nf3 g5 16.Nh2 c6 17.Bb3 Rad8 18.Qe2 Be8 19.Rf3 Bg6 20.Raf1 d5 21.exd5 e4 22.dxe4 Bxe4 23.R3f2 Nxd5 1-0 Harsh,S (2324)-Ajiri,N (1629) World ol U16 2023 (1.16) 24.Nf3 Rfe8 25.Nd4 Bg6 26.Re1 Qxe3 27.Bxd5 Qxe2 28.Rfxe2 cxd5 29.Re7 Be4 30.Rxb7 Rb8 31.Rxb8 Rxb8 32.Re2 Rb7 33.Rd2 Kg6 34.Nc6 h5 35.Kf2 Rf7+ 36.Ke3 Rc7 37.Nb4 Rd7 38.Kd4 Kf6 1-0 Hlavac,F (2324)-Collett,J (1629) 65/353 Groningen 1995 (1.16)]

9...exd4 0.45/19

[9...Bb6= -0.12/19]

10.cxd4± Bb6 11.Nc3 h6N

[11...c6 12.Bd3 h6 13.Be3 Qe7 0.86/17 *(13...Nh5± 0.33/17)* 14.Re1 Nh5 15.Qd2 Qf6 1.48/20 *(15...Bd7± 0.60/17)* 16.Ne2 0.45/17 *(16.e5!± 1.48/20 dxe5 17.dxe5 Bxe3 18.Qxe3)* 16...Qe7 17.Rad1 Nf6 1.24/16 ;½-½ Alvarez Mora,J (1804)-Alvarado Machado,V (2039) San Jose Solidario Blitz op 1st 2024 (7) *(⌓17...Re8 0.75/16)*]

12.Bxf6 Qxf6 13.Nd5 Prevents Ng6-f4

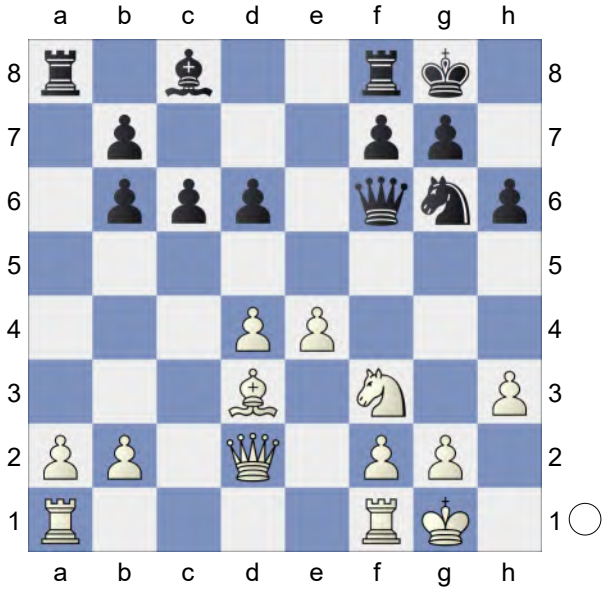
13...Qd8 14.Nxb6 axb6 15.Qd2 -0.26/20

[15.a3 0.12/17 should be considered.]

15...c6 0.10/20

[⌓15...f5 -0.26/20 16.Rfe1 fxe4 17.Rxe4 c6]

16.Bd3= Qf6



17.e5 -0.50/20 **dxe5∓ 18.Bxg6 fxg6** -0.14/21

[18...Qxg6∓ -0.60/21 19.Nxe5 Qd6]

19.dxe5 -0.63/20

[19.Nxe5= -0.14/21 Rd8 20.Qe3]

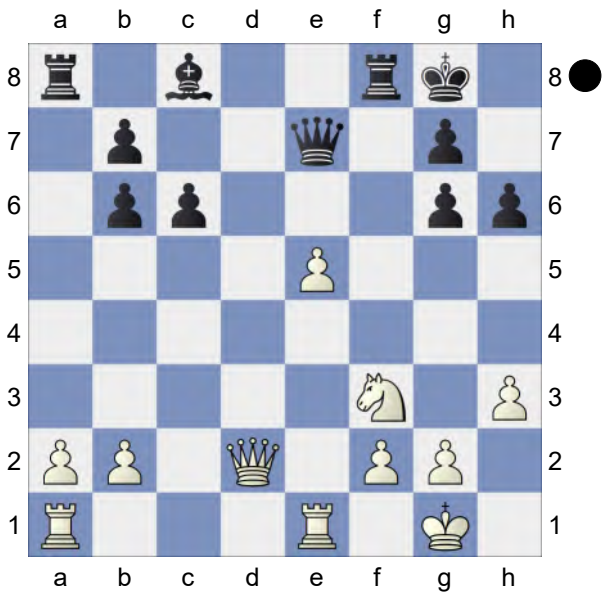
19...Qe7 -0.01/18

[19...Qf7∓ -0.63/20]

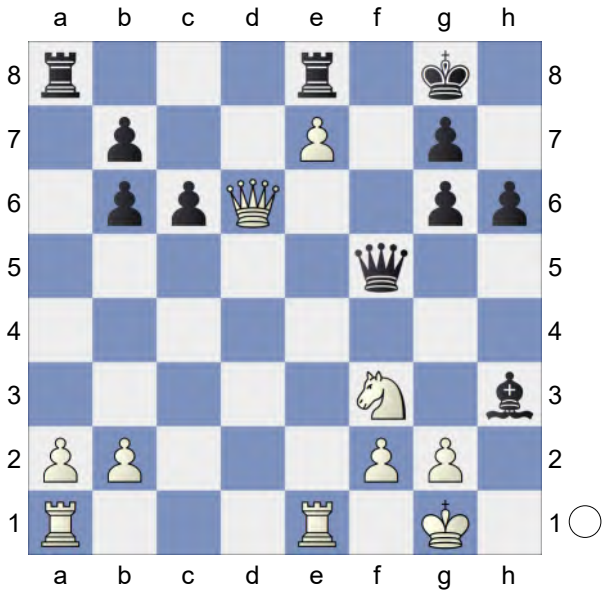
20.Rfe1 -0.51/20

[20.Qe3= -0.01/18]

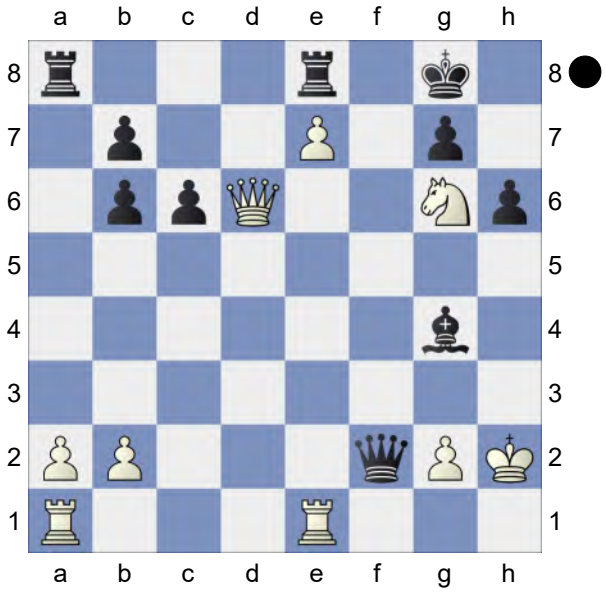
(Diagram)



20...Bxh3! D e f l e c t i o n **21.Qd6!** Inhibits Bh3-e6. **21...Qf7** and ...Bh3xg2! would now be decisive **22.e6** **Qf5** 3.17/22
[22...Qf6∓ -0.38/22 23.Qe5 Bf5]
23.e7 1.57/23
[23.Qg3!+- 3.17/22]
23...Rfe8 2.46/20
[23...Bxg2± 1.57/23 24.exf8N *(24.exf8R+ Rxf8+-)* 24...Rxf8+-]



Black is weak on the dark squares
24.Kh2? -0.46/23
[24.Qg3!+- 2.46/20]
24...Bg4 0.01/22
[24...Qg4∓ -0.46/23 25.Qg3 *(25.gxh3 Qxf3 26.Qe6+ Kh7=)* 25...Qxg3+ 26.fxg3 Bf5]
25.Nh4? -2.42/22
[25.Ne5= 0.01/22]
25...Qxf2-+
[25...Qh5 26.Kg3∓]
26.Nxg6



Bh5? 0.87/21
[26...Qf6!-+ -2.88/22 27.Qd3 *(27.Qxf6 gxf6 28.Rf1 Kg7-+)* 27...Bf5 28.Qc4+ Kh7 *(28...Qf7 29.Ne5=* Pin *)*]
27.Rf1± Qxb2 10.01/22
[27...Qc5± 0.94/23 28.Qe6+ Kh7 29.Nf8+ Kh8 *(29...Rxf8 30.exf8B Rxf8 31.Rxf8=)*]
28.Rf8+? 0.52/25
[Only move: 28.Qe6++- 10.01/22 Kh7 29.Nf8+ Rxf8 30.Rxf8 *(30.exf8R Rxf8 31.Rxf8 Qd4+-; 30.exf8B Re8+-)*]
28...Kh7± 29.Rxe8? -1.63/23
[29.Nf4± 0.52/24 Qxa1 30.Nxh5]
29...Rxe8-+ 30.Nf8+ Kg8 31.Re1 Qf2 -0.60/22

[31...Qxa2 32.Qd3 Qd5 33.Qh7+ Kf7 34.Rf1+ *(34.Ne6 Be2∓* Clearance *)* 34...Kxe7 35.Qxg7+ Kd8 36.Qxb7 Qd6+ 37.Kh1=]
[Black should play 31...Qf6-+ -1.64/24 32.Re6 Qh4+ 33.Kg1 c5]

32.Qe6+∓ Bf7 33.Qe4 g6 1.00/21
[33...Rxf8∓ -0.33/23 stays ahead. 34.exf8Q+ Kxf8]

34.Re2? -1.96/21
[34.Nxg6 Bd5 35.Qe2 Qxe2 36.Rxe2 Kg7∓ *(36...Kf7 37.Ne5+ Kg7 38.Nd7∓)*]
[34.Nd7± 1.00/21]

34...Qf6-+ 35.Re3? -3.24/22
[35.g3 -1.66/19]

35...Bd5
[35...Bxa2 36.Nxg6 Bd5 37.Qg4=]

36.Qg4 -4.78/23
[36.Qxg6+ Qxg6 37.Nxg6 Bxa2∓]
[36.Qb4 -2.57/22 g5 *(36...Bxa2? 37.Nd7+-; 36...Qg5 37.Rg3∓)* 37.Nd7 Qf4+ 38.Qxf4 gxf4 39.Rd3]

36...Rxe7
[Not 36...Bxa2 37.Nxg6 *(37.Qxg6+?* too greedy. *Qxg6 38.Nxg6 Kg7-+)* 37...Bd5 38.Nh4+ Kh8 *(38...Qg5 39.Qxg5+ hxg5 40.Nf5+-)* 39.Kh3± *(39.Nf5 Kh7=)*]

37.Rf3 -10.49/22
[⌓37.Rxe7 -4.62/22 Qxe7 38.Nxg6]

37...Bxf3 Weighted Error Value: White=1.13/Black=0.78

0-1

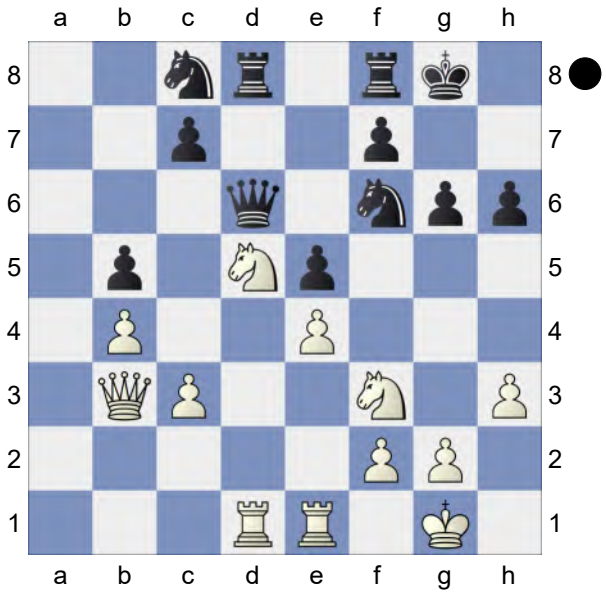
339 **C77**
□ **Marochkina,Yaroslava** **1818**
■ **Sana,Omprakash Kayyar** **1950**
Swiss Queens Wed #47 blitz (2)
[Kitty Kat]

C77: Ruy Lopez: 3...a6 4 Ba4 Nf6, unusual lines **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.c3 Be7 6.0-0 0-0 7.h3**
[7.Re1 Re8 *(7...Bd7 8.Ba4 Na5 9.Bc2 c5 10.d4 cxd4 11.cxd4 Bg4 12.dxe5 Bxf3 13.Qxf3 dxe5 14.Qg3 Nc6 15.Nc3 Nh5 16.Qh3 Nf6 17.Be3 Qc8 18.Qg3 Ng4 19.Bc1 Nf6 20.Bd1 Kh8 21.Be3 Bb4 22.Bg5* ½-½ Ioannidis,E (2446)-Mastrovasilis,A (2530) GRE-ch 70th Lamia 2021 (9.2)) 8.Nbd2 Bd7 9.Ba4 Bf8 10.Nf1 Ne7 11.Bc2 Ng6 12.Ng3 c6 13.d4 h6 14.h3 Qc7 15.Be3 Rad8 16.a4 Be6 17.a5 b6 18.axb6 axb6 19.Bd3 b5 20.Qc2 Ra8 21.b4 Nd7 ½-½ Marosi,G (2713)-C 06/32 (2783) 16.Bg5 2012 (1.3)]

7...a6N
[7...Ne8 8.Nh2 d5 9.exd5 Qxd5 10.Bc4 Qd7 11.b4 Nd6 12.Bb3 a5 13.Bd2 axb4 14.cxb4 Qf5 15.Bc2 Nd4 16.f4 N6b5 17.Kh1 Bd7 18.Nc3 Nxc3 19.Bxc3 Nxc2 20.Qxc2 exf4 21.Rae1 Bd6 22.Nf3 0-1 Ettlinger,A-Lasker,E Match Lasker - Ettlinger 1893 Qd5 23.a3 f6 24.Bb2 Bf5 25.Rd1 b5 26.Qc3 Rfe8 27.Qd4 Qb7 28.Qf2 Re3 29.Qh4 Bxd3 30.Rxd3 Rxd3 31.Bxf6 gxf6 32.Qxf6 Qd5 33.Qh4 Rd1 34.Rxd1 Qxd1+ 35.Kh2 Qd5 36.Qg4+ Kh8 37.h4 0-1 Ettlinger,A-Lasker,E USA New York m 1893 Rg8 38.Qd7 Qa2 39.Ng5 f3+ ½-½ Eubanks,G-Hahn,D USCCC-8 final 9093 1990]

8.Ba4 b5 9.Bc2 9.Bb3 is more fashionable. 9.Lb3 ist modischer. **9...Be6 10.Nbd2 d5 11.Re1** 0.27/19
[11.d4± 0.72/21]
11...dxe4 White has an edge. **12.dxe4 Bc5 13.Nf1 h6 14.Be3 Qe7 15.b4N**
[15.a4 -0.01/22 15.b2-b4 0.42 Rfd8 16.Qc1 b4 17.a5 b3 18.Bb1 Nd7 19.Bd3 Bxe3 20.Qxe3 Qc5 21.Red1 -0.66/24 *(21.Be2= -0.17/23)* 21...Qxe3 22.Nxe3 0-1 Volkov,M (2271)-Leyva Proenza,R (2333) Titled Tuesday intern op 30th Jan Early blitz 2024 (3)]
15...Bxe3 0.72/22
[15...Bd6± 0.36/20]
16.Nxe3± Rad8 17.Qb1 g6 18.a4 Na7? 2.02/21
[18...Rd6± 0.44/21]
19.Bb3 0.54/22
[19.Nxe5 Bxh3 20.Nxf7 Kxf7=]
[19.axb5+- 2.02/21 Nxb5 20.Qb2 *(20.Rxa6 Nxc3 21.Qb2 Ncxe4±; 20.Nxe5 Qd6±)*]
19...Bxb3 1.05/21
[19...Nc6!± 0.54/22]
20.Qxb3 Nc8 1.44/22
[⌓20...Nc6 0.94/20]
21.Nd5 0.71/23
[21.c4 1.44/22]
21...Qd6 1.38/23
[⌓21...Nxd5 0.71/23 22.exd5 Nb6]
22.axb5 axb5 23.Rad1

(Diagram)



White has more active pieces. **23...Kg7** 1.56/23
[Black should try 23...Nxd5 0.93/24 24.Rxd5 Qe6]
24.Nh2? -0.04/20
[24.Nf4± 1.56/23 Qe7 25.Nd3]
24...Qe6 25.c4 bxc4 26.Qxc4 Nxd5 27.exd5
[27.Rxd5? Nb6 28.Qxc7 Nxd5 29.exd5 Rxd5-+]
27...Qd6 28.Nf3 -0.17/22
[28.Ng4± 0.50/21]
28...Nb6= 29.Qc6 -0.80/20
[29.Qe4= -0.12/22]
29...Qxc6∓
[29...Rfe8 looks sharper. 30.Qc1 Nxd5 31.Re4 h5]
30.dxc6 f6 31.Nd2 Rd6 32.Ne4 Rxc6 33.b5↑ White is more active. **33...Rc2 34.Rc1! Rxc1 35.Rxc1=** Endgame KRN-KRN. Black is a pawn up. **35...Rf7 36.Rc6 f5** and ...Nb6-d5! would now be decisive **37.Nc5 Kh7** 0.18/25
[⌓37...Nd5 -0.24/23]
38.Ne6 Rd7 8.72/24
[38...Nd5± 0.31/22]
39.Rxc7? -0.01/22

[Only move: 39.Nf8++- 8.72/24 Kg8 40.Nxd7 Nxd7 41.Rxc7]

39...Rxc7 40.Nxc7+- KN-KN 40...Kg7 41.Ne6+ Kf6 42.Nc5 Ke7 43.Kf1 Kd6 44.Nd3 Kd5 45.Ke2 e4 0.40/26

[45...Nd7= -0.01/23]

46.Nf4+± Kc5 47.Nxg6 Kxb5? 3.76/28

[47...Nd5± 0.48/25]

48.Ke3+- Nd5+ 49.Kd4 Kc6 50.Ke5 e3 51.fxe3

[51.Kxf5? exf2 52.Ne5+ Kb5-+]

51...Nxe3 52.g3 Nf1 4.39/29

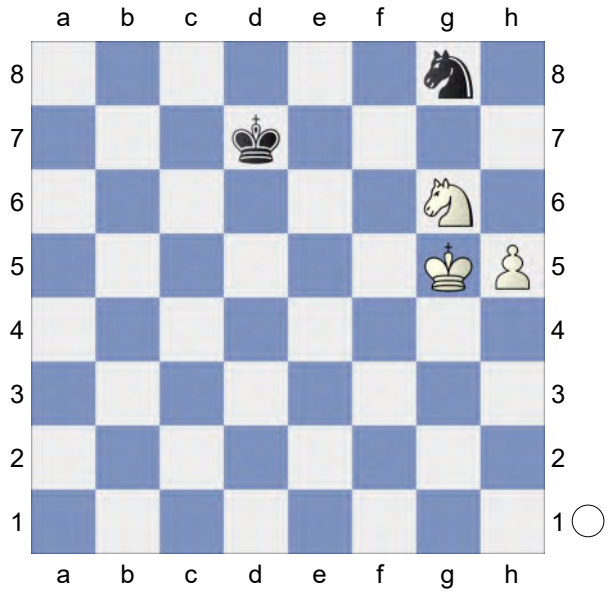
[52...Nd5 3.13/26 is a better defense. 53.Nf4 *(53.Kxf5 Kd6+-)* 53...Ne3]

53.Kxf5? 0.00/33

[White should play 53.Ne7++- 4.39/29 Kd7 54.Nxf5]

53...Nxg3+= 54.Kg4 Ne4 55.Kh5 Nf2 56.h4 Ne4 57.Kxh6 Nf6 58.Kg5 Ng8 59.h5 Kd7 8.07/34

[59...Kd6= 0.01/27]



Repels Ng6-e7 **60.Nf4!+- Ke7?** 4.28/32

[60...Ke8!= 0.01/35 and Black is okay.]

61.Kg6 And now Kg6-g7 would win.

61...Kf8 #16/26

[61...Ke8± 0.48/26 62.Kg7 Ne7]

62.Nd5 Ke8 63.Kg7 Weighted Error Value: White=0.42/Black=0.84

1-0

340 **C65**

□ **Abo Moliana,Montasar** **1993**

■ **Fawzy,Adham** **2431**

43rd Olympiad 2018 Open (1.3) 24.09.18

[TA]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 Be7

[6...Qe7 7.Nc3 g5 8.Bg3 d6 9.d4 *(9.Na4)* 9...exd4 *(9...Bb4 10.dxe5 Bxc3+ 11.bxc3 Nxe4 12.0-0 Nxg3 13.Bxc6+ bxc6 14.hxg3 0-0 15.Re1)* 10.Nxd4 Bd7 11.Bxc6 bxc6 12.0-0 h5 *(12...0-0 13.Re1)* 13.e5 h4 14.exf6 *(14.Re1 0-0-0 15.exf6 Qxf6 16.Be5 dxe5 17.Ne4 Qe7 18.Nxc5 Qxc5 19.Nb3 Qb6 20.Rxe5 Be6 21.Qe2 Rd5 22.c4 Rxe5 23.Qxe5 Rd8 24.Nc5 Bxc4 25.b3 Rd5 26.Qe8+ Rd8 27.Qe7 Bd5 28.Rc1 Rg8 29.Qe5 Qa5 30.Qf5+ Be6 31.Qe4 Bd5 32.Qg4+ Kb8 33.Qe2 Rd8 34.Qe7 Rg8 35.a4 h3 36.b4)* 14...Qxf6 15.Nb3 hxg3 16.Nxc5 gxh2+ 17.Kh1 dxc5]

[6...d6 7.c3 0-0 8.0-0]

[6...g5 7.Bg3 d6 8.c3 0-0]

[6...Nd4 7.Nxd4 Bxd4 *(7...exd4 8.e5)* 8.c3 Bb6 9.Nd2 c6 *(9...0-0 10.0-0 d6 11.Nc4)* 10.Ba4 d6 11.Nc4 Bc7 12.Ne3 Be6 13.Bb3 Qe7 14.Qf3 g5 15.Bg3 h5 *(15...0-0-0 16.0-0-0 h5)* 16.h4 g4 17.Qe2 d5 18.exd5 Nxd5 *(18...cxd5 19.Nc2)* 19.Nxd5 Bxd5 20.Bxd5 cxd5 21.d4 0-0-0 *(21...e4 22.Qb5+ Qd7 23.Qxb7)* 22.dxe5 Bxe5 23.0-0 *(23.Bxe5 Rhe8 24.0-0-0 Qxe5*

25.Qd2 Qe4 26.Rhe1 Qxg2 27.Rxe8 Rxe8 28.Qxd5 Qxd5 29.Rxd5 Re2 30.Rf5 Kd7 31.Rxf7+ Ke6 32.Rf8 Kd5 33.Kb1 Ke4 34.Rf7 b5 35.a4 bxa4 36.Ka2 a6 37.Ka3 Rc2 38.Rf6 a5 39.Rf8 Re2 40.c4 Kd4 41.Rf4+ Ke5 42.Rf8 Kd4 43.Rf5 Kxc4 44.Rxh5 Rxf2 45.Rxa5 g3 46.Rxa4+ Kb5 47.Rg4 Rh2 48.Rxg3 Rxh4) 23...Bd6 24.Qd3]

7.Nc3 0-0

[7...d6 8.d4]

8.Bxc6 dxc6

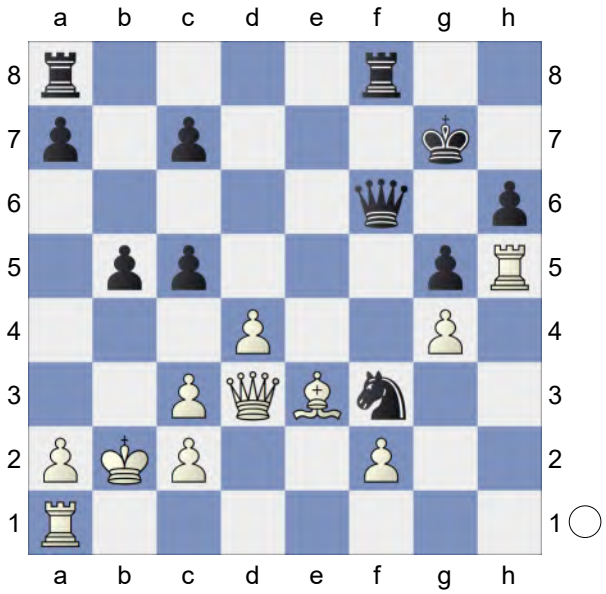
[8...bxc6 9.Nxe5 Precision: Weiß = 54%, Schwarz = 40%. Nxe4± 10.Bxe7!? Qxe7 11.Nxc6 dxc6 12.Qe2= Bh3!?

A) 13.dxe4 Qb4 14.Qe3 *(14.0-0 Qxb2 15.Qc4)* 14...Bxg2 15.Rg1 1/2-1/2 (33) Persson,B (2011)-Strebel,P (2135) ICCF email 2014 Bxe4 16.0-0-0 Bg6 17.Qd4 c5 18.Qxb4 cxb4 19.Nd5 c5 20.Ne7+ Kh7 21.f4 a5 22.f5 Bh5 23.Rd5 Ra7 24.f6 gxf6 25.Rxh5 Rxe7 1/2-1/2 (26) Granski,M (2533)-Voll,A (2566) ICCF email 2014 26.Rxc5 Re5;

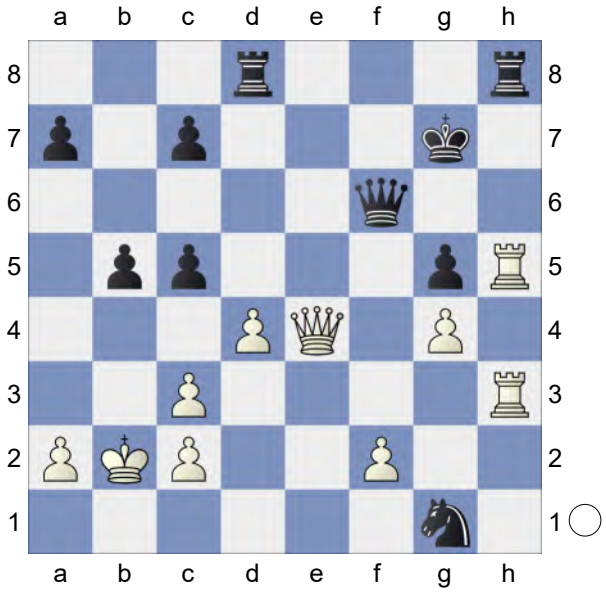
B) 13.Qxe4 Qxe4+= 14.Nxe4 Bxg2 15.Nf6+ Kh8= *(15...gxf6 16.Rg1)* Vorgänger: 16.Rg1 Bd5 17.Nxd5 cxd5 18.Kd2]

9.Bg3 Bg4 10.Bxe5 Nd7 11.Bg3

[11.Bd4 f5 12.h3 fxe4 LiveBook: 29 Partien 13.hxg4 B33: Sizilianisch (Lasker/ Pelikan/Sweschnikow-Variante) exf3 14.gxf3 Bf6N 15.Be3 Die Stellung ist ausgeglichen. Bxc3+ 16.bxc3 Qf6 17.Kd2 Ne5 18.Kc1 Und weiter mit ...Lxe3 wäre nett. Nxf3 19.Kb2 b5 20.d4 c5 21.Rh5 ...La6 ist eine echte Drohung. g5 22.Qd3 Droht stark ...Ld8. Kg7!↑



Weiss hat gut koordiniertes Spiel. 23.Rah1! Rh8 24.R1h3 Rad8 25.Qe4 Ng1 26.Bxg5 hxg5



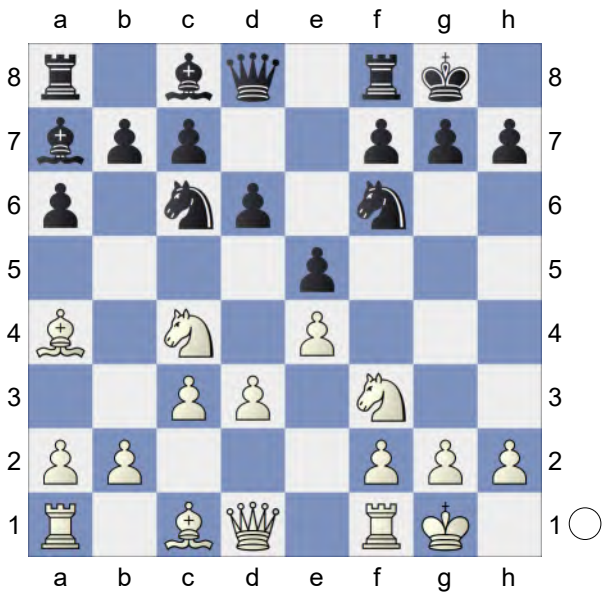
Und La4 würde nun gewinnen. 27.Rh7+ Rxh7 28.Qxh7+ Kf8± Endspiel KLS-KLS 29.Rh6 Qf7 30.Qh8+ Ke7 31.Qe5+± KL-KL Kd7 32.Rf6 Qg8 33.Qf5+ Ke7 34.Rc6= Qd5 35.Qh7+ Ke8 36.Rg6 cxd4 37.Rg8+ Qxg8 38.Qxg8+ Kd7 39.Qd5+ Kc8 40.Qf5+ Rd7 41.cxd4 Nh3 42.Qf3 Rh7 43.Qf5+ Rd7 44.Qf3 Rh7 45.Qa8+ Kd7 46.Qd5+]

11...f5 12.exf5 Rxf5 13.Qe2
½-½

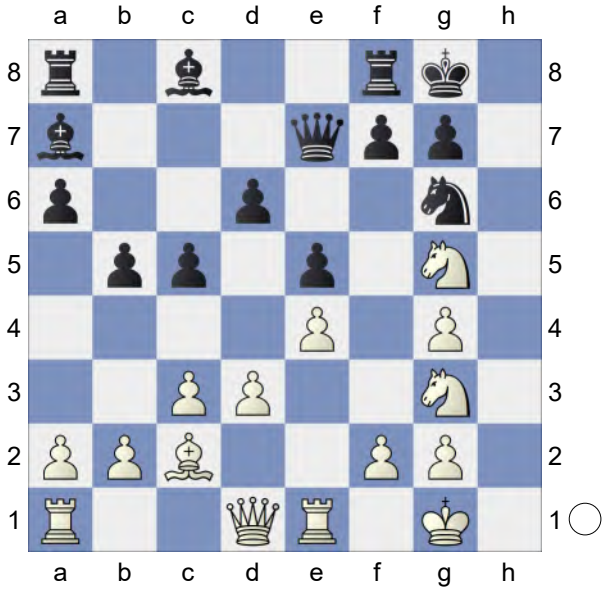
341 **C65**
□ **Quparadze,Giga** **2495**
■ **Jelic,Dejan** **1890**
43rd Olympiad 2018 Open (1.8) 24.09.18
[TA]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 Bc5 5.0-0 d6 6.c3 C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 **6...Bb6**
[6...0-0 7.Nbd2 Ne7 8.d4 exd4 9.cxd4 Bb6 10.Re1 Bg4 11.h3 Bh5 12.Qb3 a6 13.Bd3 Nc6 14.d5 Nd4 15.Nxd4 Bxd4 1/2-1/2 (62) Vachier Lagrave,M (2789)-Grischuk,A (2766) Leuven 2018]
7.Nbd2 LiveBook: 14 Games **7...a6**
8.Ba4 The position is equal. **8...0-0**
9.Nc4N
[Predecessor: 9.h3 Be6 10.Re1 h6 11.Nf1 Rc8 12.Ng3 Ne7 13.d4 Ng6 14.Be3 exd4 15.Nxd4 1/2-1/2 (64) Koch,H (2336)-Zalcik,V (2313) ICCF email 2012]
9...Ba7

(Diagram)



And now ...b5 would win. **10.Bc2 b5 11.Ne3 Ne7 12.Re1 c5 13.Nf1 Ng6 14.Ng3 Qc7 15.Bg5 Ng4 16.h3 h6 17.hxg4** Bd2 is the strong threat. **17...hxg5 18.Nxg5 Qe7**



19.Nh3!↑ White is on the roll. **19...Qh4 20.Nf5 Bxf5**
[20...Qd8±]
21.exf5+-
[Much less strong is 21.gxf5?! Ne7±]
21...Ne7
[21...Nf4 is a better defense.]
22.Qf3 Rab8 23.g5 f6?

[23...Qh7 is a better chance. 24.f6 Ng6]

24.Bb3+ White is clearly winning. **24...c4 25.Re4 Qh7 26.g6 Qh6 27.dxc4 bxc4**

[⌓27...Rfd8 28.cxb5+ d5]

28.Rxc4 Precision: White = 76%, Black = 34%.

1-0

342 **C67**

□ **Mason,James**

■ **Burn,Amos**

6th American Congress (2.31) 06.05.89

[Steinitz, W., TA]

C67: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence: 4 0-0 Nxe4 Parma,Bruno: 'Bulletin: 'Inf.2/231'' **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.0-0 Nxe4 5.d4 Be7 6.dxe5 0-0 7.Qd5** [Out of the usual groove, but indifferent in its results. White develops his pieces quickly, but the far advanced pawn at e5 will soon enable the adversary at least to equalize the game.]

[7.Be3 d5 8.exd6 Nxd6 9.Bxc6 bxc6 10.Bc5 Bf6 11.c3 Ba6 12.Re1 Re8 13.Nbd2 Rxe1+ 14.Qxe1 Qb8 15.Nb3 Qb7 16.Qd2 Nc4 17.Qc2 Re8 18.h3 h6 19.Rd1 Bb5 20.Nbd4 a5 21.b3 Nb6 1-0 Mongontuul,B (2345)-Garcia Vicente,N (2213) Calvia ol (Women) 2004 (7.5)]

7...Nc5 8.Be3 Ne6 0.89/20

[8...a6= 0.11/22 9.Bxc5 axb5 10.Bxe7 Qxe7 11.Nc3 b4 12.Nb5 Ra5 13.a4 b6 14.Rfe1 Ba6 15.Rad1 Nb8 16.b3 Re8 17.Qd2 Bxb5 18.axb5 Rxb5 19.Re4 Levano Loayza,A (2670)-3..Nf6 (2480) LSS SM-2009-0-00081]

9.c3N 0.01/22 White is much more active.

[9.Nc3± 0.89/20 a6 10.Bc4 d6 11.exd6 Qxd6 12.Rad1 Qxd5 13.Nxd5 Bd8 14.Rfe1 *(14.a4 Ne7 15.Nc3 Nf5 16.Bc1 c6 17.Ne4 Bb6 18.c3 h6 19.g4 Ne7 20.Nd6 Ng6 21.h4 Bc7 22.h5 Nh8 23.Nxc8 Raxc8 24.Bxe6 fxe6 25.Nd4 Rce8 26.Rde1 e5 27.Nf5 Nf7 28.Rd1 Rd8* 1-0 Schuetz,I-Englund,H Sweden ch-38 1978 *)* 14...b5 15.Bf1 Ne7 16.c4 Nf5 17.Bd2 c6 18.Ne3 Nxe3 19.Bxe3 Bf6 20.b3 Rd8 21.Bb6 Rxd1 22.Rxd1 Rb8 23.Be3 Bb7 24.Rd7 1-0 Tringov,G-Filip,M La (ol) 2/231 1966]

9...f6 [A very good move in accordance with modern principles in this and similar positions when the opponent's pawn has advanced to e5, for it forces the opening of the f-file and exchanges a wing pawn for one in the center, besides opening the f-file for the Rook and forming a majority of pawns on the Queenside.] **10.exf6! Bxf6** White is slightly better. **11.Bd3 Ne7 12.Qb3 d5 13.Qc2 g6 14.Na3** 0.21/21

[14.Re1± 0.58/20]

14...c6 15.Rfe1 Qc7 0.75/22

[Black had already the best of the game on the grounds given in our last comment, but he ought to have proceeded to disentangle the minor pieces first, and he could well reserve developing the Queen perhaps to another post later on. 15...Ng7 with the view of entering with one of the Knights at f5, or playing 16... ♗g4, was in many respects stronger.]

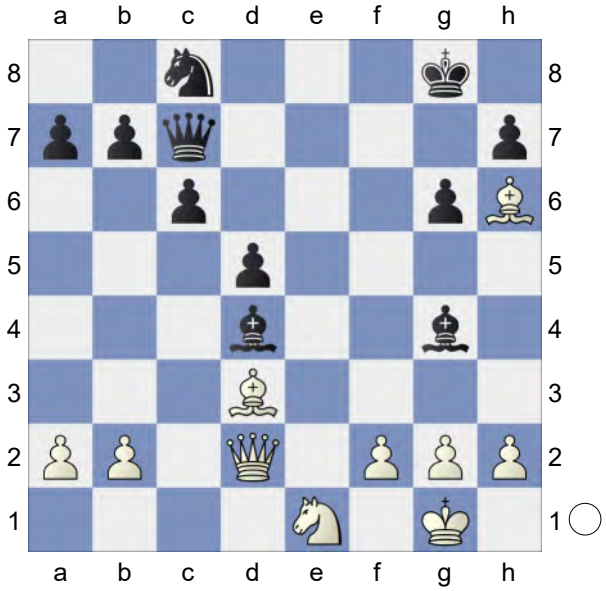
[15...Ng7= 0.24/24]

16.Qd2± Bd7 17.Rad1 Rae8 18.Nc2 Nc8 1.14/22

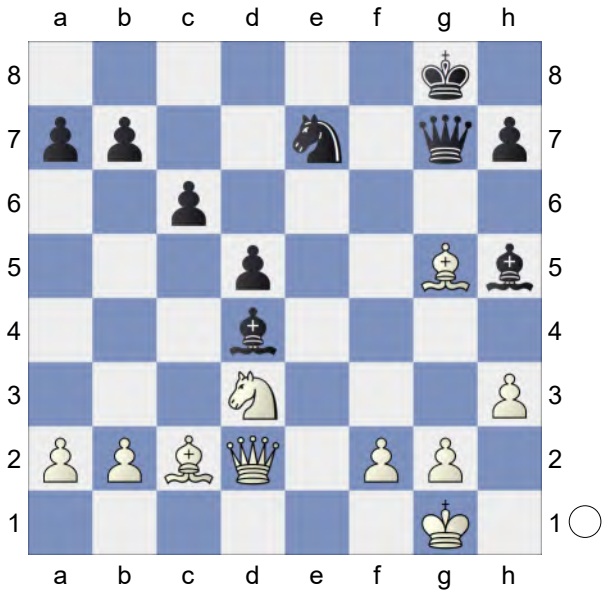
[18...c5± 0.69/20]

19.Ncd4 0.48/22

[19.c4± 1.14/22]
19...Nxd4± 20.cxd4 Bg4 21.Bh6 Bg7 22.Rxe8 Rxe8 23.Re1! Rxe1+ 24.Nxe1 Bxd4 0.89/23
[24...Bxh6± 0.43/24 25.Qxh6 Qe7]



[Black increases his majority of pawns on the Queenside, and consequently his advantage for the ending. His Kingside was safe enough by proper play, and he could well afford to give up a pawn on the Kingside for the one in the Queen's center.] **25.Bxg6!** 0.43/22 **Qe5 26.Bc2** -0.12/23
[26.Bd3± 0.49/22]
26...Ne7 1.35/23
[26...Qe2!= -0.12/23 keeps the balance. 27.Qxe2 *(27.Qg5+ Kf7=)* 27...Bxe2]
27.h3→ Black is in trouble. **27...Bh5**
[27...Be2 2.23/23 27...Bh5 1.39 was much better.]
28.Nd3 This move loses the game for Black. **28...Qf6** 7.75/21
[A grave blunder which loses a piece. 28...Qd6 2.21/21 28...Qe2 1.30 was his only move.]
[28...Qe2± 1.07/25]
29.Bg5+- Qg7

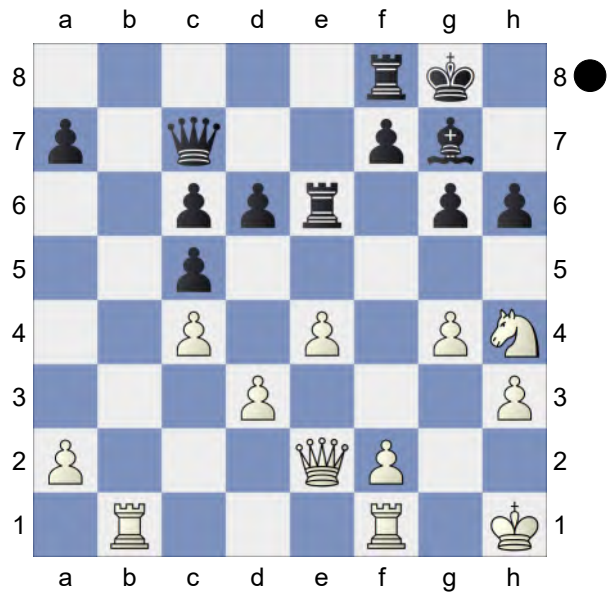


30.Bxe7! Qxe7 31.Nf4 Wards off Qe2. Discovered Attack **31...Bxb2 32.Nxh5 Qe5 33.Ng3**
[33.Qh6 Qe7 34.Bf5 and Be6+ would now be decisive Be5 (otherwise White wins by 35. ♗e6+) 35.f4 Bd4+ *(35...Bd6 36.Bxh7+* and either wins the Queen by 37. ♘f6+, or else forces mates in a few moves*)* 36.Kh2 Kh8 37.Bc8 threatening 38. ♗xb7, was a more direct way to victory.]
33...Bd4 34.Nf5 Bb6 35.g3 Kf7 36.Kg2 Qf6 37.Qe2 c5 38.Qh5+ Kf8 39.Qxh7 c4 40.Qxb7 Qe5 41.Qc8+ Kf7 42.Qd7+ Kf8 43.Nd6 Qf6 44.Qe8+ Kg7 45.Nf5+ Kh7 46.Ne7+ Kg7 47.Qg8+ Kh6 Weighted Error Value: White=0.22 (precise) /Black=0.85
48.Nf5+
[Winning the Queen, but more precise was 48.Qh7+ Kg5 followed by 49.Qh4#]
1-0

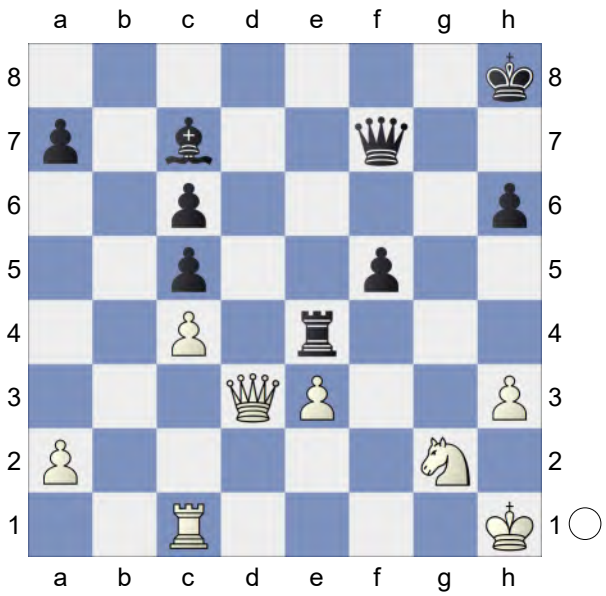
343 **C65**
□ **Paulsen,Wilfried**
■ **Zukertort,Johannes Hermann**
Aachen MT (5) 1868
[Kitty Kat]

C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5 In a see-saw match a new force emerges in the person of Wilhelm Steinitz. In this decisive game, the younger man launches a "pawn roller" against White's King, while the man famous for the "Immortal" and "Evergreen" games pursues a positional attack on the Queenside. The White King runs, but can't hide. **1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Nf6 4.d3 d6 5.Bxc6+ bxc6 6.h3 g6 7.Nc3** C65: Ruy Lopez: Berlin Defence (3...Nf6), unusual lines and 4 0-0 Bc5. **7...Bg7 8.Bg5 h6**
[8...Rb8 feels hotter. 9.d4 exd4! 10.Nxd4 Bb7]
9.Be3 Black is slightly better. Black has an edge. **9...c5 10.0-0 0-0 11.Ne2N** -0.80/19
[11.Rb1∓ -0.46/25 was preferrable.]
[Predecessor: 11.Rb1 Ne8 12.b4 cxb4 13.Rxb4 c5 14.Ra4 Bd7 15.Ra3 f5 16.Qb1 -0.87/19 *(16.Nd5∓ -0.40/21)* 16...Kh8 0.01/21 *(16...Nc7∓ -0.87/19)* 17.Qb7 0-1 (43) Anderssen,A-Steinitz,W London 1866 a5 18.Rb1 a4 19.Qd5 Qc8 20.Rb6 Ra7 21.Kh2 f4 22.Bd2 g5 23.Qc4 Qd8 24.Rb1 Nf6 25.Kg1 Nh7 26.Kf1 h5 27.Ng1 g4 28.hxg4 hxg4 29.f3 Qh4 30.Nd1 Ng5 31.Be1 Qh2 *(31...Qh7 32.d4 gxf3 33.gxf3 Nh3 34.Bf2 Nxg1 35.dxc5 Qh3+ 36.Ke1 Nxf3+ 37.Rxf3 Qxf3 38.Nc3 dxc5 39.Bxc5 Rc7 40.Nd5 Rxc5 41.Qxc5 Qxe4+ 42.Kf2 Rc8 43.Nc7 Qe3+ 44.Qxe3 fxe3+ 45.Kxe3 Rxc7 46.Rh1+* 1-0 Anderssen,A (2600)-Riemann,F (2450) Breslau 1874*)* 32.d4 0-1 Anderssen,A-Steinitz,W 13th Match Game 1866]
11...Nh5 -0.25/24
[11...Nd7∓ -0.80/19]
12.g4 -1.19/24
[12.Qd2= -0.25/24]
[12.Qd2= -0.29/21 remains equal.]
12...Qf6∓ 13.Nc3 Nf4 14.Bxf4 exf4 15.Nd5 -1.51/23
[⌓15.Kh2 -1.07/20]
15...Qd8
[Resist 15...Qxb2 0.01/23 15...Qd8 -1.28 16.Rb1 Qxa2 17.Nxc7±]
[15...Qxb2 16.Rb1 Qxa2 17.Nxc7∓]
16.Nxf4 Bxb2 -0.33/21
[16...Rb8!∓ -1.10/24 17.Rb1 -1.52/23 *(⌓17.Qe2 -0.84/21)* 17...Rxb2 -0.36/21 *(17...f5!∓ -1.52/23 18.gxf5 gxf5)* 18.Rxb2∓ Bxb2]
[16...Rb8!∓ -1.00/22 17.Rb1 Rxb2 *(17...Bxb2 18.Qd2∓)* 18.Rxb2 Bxb2]
17.Rb1∓ Bg7 18.Kh2 Be6 -0.33/25
[18...c6 -0.65/23 deserves consideration.]
19.c4 c6 0.00/24
[19...a5∓ -0.48/24]
20.Qe2 Qc7 21.Kh1 -0.53/22
[21.Nxe6= 0.00/26 fxe6 22.e5]
[White should try 21.Nxe6= -0.01/21 fxe6 22.e5]
21...Rae8 0.01/21
[21...Bd7∓ -0.52/21]
[Better is 21...Bd7∓ -0.53/22]
22.Nxe6= Rxe6 23.Nh4? -1.53/25
[23.Rfe1= 0.00/33]
[23.Rfe1= -0.01/23]

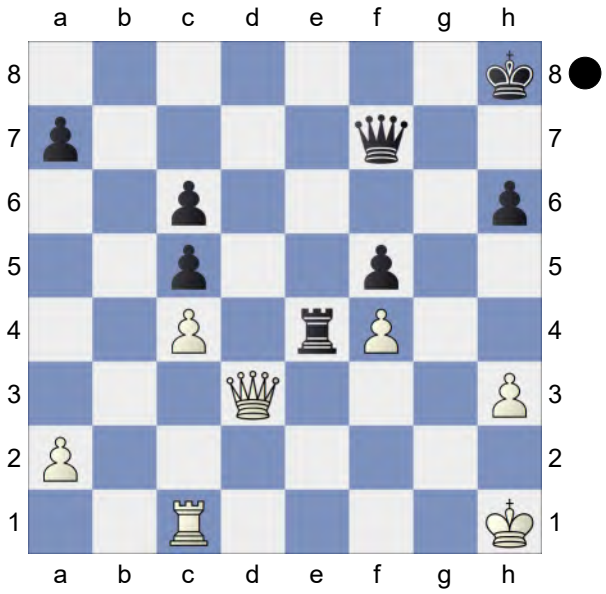
(Diagram)



23...d5!∓ 24.Qf3 -2.86/24
[24.Nf3∓ -1.08/27]
[24.Kg2∓ -1.58/25]
24...dxe4-+ 25.dxe4 Qe7 26.Ng2 Rxe4 27.Rfe1 White is weak on the dark squares **27...f5** -0.32/21
[Better is 27...Rxe1+∓ -1.52/26 28.Rxe1 Qf6 29.Qxf6 Bxf6]
[27...Rxe1+-+ -1.88/25 28.Rxe1 Qf6]
28.gxf5∓ gxf5 29.Re3 Rxe3 -0.10/28
[29...Qe6∓ -0.50/21 should be considered.]
30.fxe3= Qf7
[30...Qe6 seems wilder. 31.Nf4 Qxc4 32.Qxc6 Rf6]
31.Qe2 -0.46/21
[31.Qf4= -0.05/31]
[31.Rc1= -0.03/23 feels stronger.]
31...Re8∓ 32.Qf1 Re4
[32...Re7 is more complex. 33.Qf4 Re4 34.Qd6 Rxc4 35.Qxc6 Rb4]
33.Rc1 -1.78/23
[33.Rb8+= -0.25/25 Bf8! 34.Qf3 *(34.Nf4 Kh7∓)*]
[33.Rb8+∓ -0.48/25 Bf8 *(33...Kh7 34.Rb7∓)* 34.Qf3]
33...Be5-+ 34.Qe2 Kh8 Black is much more active. **35.Qd3 Bc7**



Inhibits Qd8+. aiming for ...Qh5. **36.Nf4** -2.86/23 Against Qh5. Prevents Qh5
[⌓36.Kg1 -1.22/23]
[⌓36.Kg1 -1.79/20]
36...Bxf4 37.exf4



Rxf4? 0.01/26 Endgame KQR-KQR. KQR-KQR. Black is two pawns up.
[37...Kh7!∓ -1.35/24 Strongly threatening ...Qe6. White must now prevent ...Qe6!. 38.Qd2 -4.11/25 *(⌓38.Qd6 -2.59/23 Re3 39.Kh2)* 38...Qe7]
[37...Kh7!-+ -2.81/26 38.Rd1 Rd4

(38...Rxc4 39.Qb3∓; 38...Rxf4? 39.Qd8∓)]

38.Qe3 -1.95/27 Inhibits Qe6.

[38.Qd6= 0.00/39 Rf3 39.Qxh6+ Qh7 40.Qf6+ Qg7 41.Qh4+ Qh7 42.Qf6+ Qg7 43.Qh4+ Qh7 44.Qf6+]

[38.Qd6= 0.01/26 and White has nothing to worry. Rf3 39.Qxh6+ Qh7 40.Qf8+ Qg8 41.Qh6+ Qh7]

38...Rh4 Hoping for ...Kh7.

[38...Rxc4? 9.87/25 38...Rh4 -1.70 39.Qxh6+ Kg8 40.Rg1+ Rg4 41.hxg4+-]

[38...Rxc4? 39.Qxh6+ Kg8 40.Rg1++-]

39.Rb1? -5.02/26

[39.Rf1∓ -2.42/23 39.Rc3 -1.25]

[39.Kh2 -1.90/25 is a better chance.]

39...Kh7

[39...Qxc4?? #5/12 39...Kh7 -5.32 leads to mate. 40.Qe5+ Kg8 41.Rb8+ Kh7 42.Rb7+ Kg6 43.Rg7+ Kh5 44.Qxf5#]

[39...Qxc4 40.Qe5+ Kg8 41.Rb8+ *(41.Qxf5? Qd5+ 42.Qxd5+ cxd5-+)* 41...Kh7 42.Rb7+]

40.Qf3 Rxc4

[40...Qxc4 41.Qxf5+ Kg8 42.Rb8+ Kg7 43.Rb7+]

41.Qxc6 Rb4 Inhibits Rb7. Discovered Attack **42.Rd1** -4.46/25

[42.Rb3 -3.06/29 was necessary.]

42...Rd4

[42...Qxa2 43.Rd7+ *(43.Qxc5 Qb1+-)* 43...Kh8 44.Qxh6+ Kg8 45.Qg7#]

43.Rb1 And now Rb7 would win. and Rb7 would now be decisive **43...Qd5+**

[43...Qxa2 44.Rb7+]

44.Qxd5 Rxd5 KR-KR. KR-KR. Black is two pawns up. **45.Rb7+ Kg6 46.Rxa7 c4?** -1.00/26

[46...Kf6-+ -3.95/25 Threatens to win with ...Ke5. 47.a4 Ke5]

[46...Kg5-+ -4.98/26 47.Kg2 Kf4]

47.Rc7∓ Ra5 -0.09/30 ...Ra4 is the strong threat.

[47...Rd4∓ -1.43/27 48.Kg2 Kh5]

48.Rxc4= Rxa2 49.h4 Re2 50.Rf4 -0.57/31

[50.Rc6+= -0.07/27 Kh5 51.Rf6]

50...Re4∓ 51.h5+ Kg5

[51...Kxh5 52.Rxf5+ Kg4 53.Rd5=]

52.Rf2 Rh4+

[52...Kxh5 53.Rxf5+ Kg4 54.Ra5=]

53.Kg1 Rg4+

[53...Kxh5?! 54.Rxf5+ Kg6 55.Rc5±]

54.Kh1? -6.24/33

[54.Kh2= -0.06/64 and White stays safe.]

[54.Kh2∓ -0.58/31]

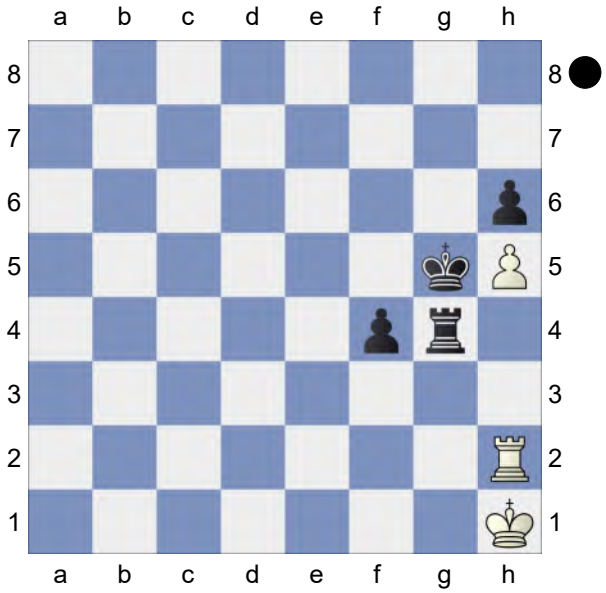
54...f4-+

[Weaker is 54...Kxh5 55.Rxf5+ Kh4 56.Kh2=]

55.Rh2 -#17/33

[55.Kh2-+ -4.96/48 Rg3 Inhibits Rf3. 56.Ra2]

[55.Rf3-+ -5.10/34 Rg3 *(55...Kxh5 56.Kh2∓)* 56.Rf2]



55...Rh4 Black mates. Black mates. **56.Rxh4 Kxh4 57.Kg2 Kxh5 58.Kf3 Kg5 59.Kg2** Weighted Error Value: White=0.60/Black=0.45 **59...Kg4** 0-. Weighted Error Value: White=0.53/ Black=0.33
0-1